

## You'll Be Safe With Us (Remastered)

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# You'll Be Safe With Us (Remastered)

by [Vigilant\\_Schemer](#)

## Summary

Immortal best friends Technoblade and Cyrus Everdeen adopt a bunch of kids and start a family together.

## Notes

This is a rewrite with original characters, except for Technoblade

## **Building a Home For a Baby Bird**

“This better be important” Techno grumbled to himself as he breached the top of the hill and Cyrus’ house came into view, it was a large but not overly fancy mansion with way too many rooms for the old crow alone. He hadn’t visited in quite a while but when he had gotten a crow urgently requesting his presence he had dropped everything to get here but now as he approached the peaceful-looking house his concern was wearing out after the long travel.

He lifted his fist to knock on the door only for it to be swung open by a rather frazzled-looking Cyrus who was holding something protectively in his arms.

“Thank the gods you came! I desperately need sleep!” Cyrus exclaimed with an almost manic grin on his face before he shoved whatever he was holding into Techno’s hands who scrambled slightly to get a grip on it only for his jaw to drop when he saw that it was a sleeping baby.

“Cyrus this is a child” He stated bluntly and all Cyrus did was hum in acknowledgement.

“Where did you get a child?” He questioned slowly and Cyrus smiled softly as he reached over to brush his fingers through the baby’s wisps of snow-white hair.

“She’s my daughter, Salacia, Sally for short” He explained softly and Techno’s eyes widened in surprise.

“You and Elowen...” He trailed off as Cyrus nodded with a sad expression on his face.

“She’s a couple of months old now but Elowen had to return to her own realm, you know that she can’t stay in the mortal realm for long, but I can’t do this alone” He admitted tiredly and Techno frowned slightly.

“So you called me all the way out here to be a babysitter?” He questioned gruffly and Cyrus gave him a sheepish smile.

“Only for a week just so I can catch up on some sleep” He clarified hopefully and Techno’s frown deepened slightly as he glanced away from his friend and down towards Sally who had woken up at some point and was blinking up at him. She had Cyrus’ eyes he noted absentmindedly as the baby giggled and reached up to touch his chin. Techno felt his heart soften significantly at the gesture.

“For you Cyrus, the world” He muttered to himself before he glanced back up at the avian.

“Fine a week, but that’s it” He stated seriously and Cyrus sagged slightly in relief.

“Thank you Techno” He gushed in relief before ushering him into the house.

“So her bottles are in that cupboard and so is her formula, her diapers are beside the changing table which is in the living room same as her toys” Cyrus rambled as he pointed things out

and Techno simply hummed in acknowledgement.

“Also she likes being read to, I don’t think she fully understands what’s being said but she likes hearing people’s voices as the silence upset her” Cyrus remarked and Techno nodded in understanding.

“Alright I got it, you go take a nap you look like you’re going to collapse any minute” He instructed and Cyrus chuckled tiredly in agreement.

“Thanks again for this” He mumbled sleepily as he patted his shoulder before he shuffled out of the room, his wings practically dropping to the floor in his exhaustion. Techno stared after him for a moment to make sure he wouldn’t keel over before he glanced down at Sally.

“You already driving your Dadda crazy huh?” He questioned and she giggled cheerfully as if proud of her actions which made Techno smirk in amusement.

“Good he needs to stay on his toes” He muttered as he walked towards the bookshelf while Sally continued to giggle and babble. He glanced over all of the children’s books before his eyes landed on something specific.

“How does the Art of War sound?” He suggested as he glanced back at Sally who just babbled happily which made him grin.

“Good choice” He remarked as he picked up the book and headed towards the couch, maybe this week wouldn’t be so bad.

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He ended up staying longer than a week and before he knew it Sally was nine years old and he had been there for all of her milestones, her first steps, her first words, everything. He had honestly almost died of cuteness overload when She had called him Papa for the first time, he couldn’t imagine ever leaving the little family that he had found for himself.

“What’s got you all frowny?” Cyrus questioned as he walked into the room and saw Techno staring down at a letter as if it had personally offended him.

“A King to the far east has become corrupt and I’ve received nearly a dozen letters to come handle it” He muttered distractedly as he gestured to the other letters on the table. Cyrus raised a thoughtful eyebrow as his eyes skimmed over one of the letters, it painted a very grim picture of what this king had done to his people.

“Are you going to go?” He asked and Techno’s frown deepened as his thoughts warred with themselves.

“I’ve grown rather attached to this peaceful lifestyle” He muttered and Cyrus hummed thoughtfully.

“But the voices crave blood” He continued in frustration as he crumpled the letter in his hand to which Cyrus gave him an understanding smile.

“We’ll still be here when you get back, your peaceful lifestyle won’t suddenly disappear on you” He said comfortingly and Techno sighed softly as he gave the avian a thankful smile.

“What’s going on?” Sally asked curiously as she stepped into the room and Cyrus and Techno shared a look before the piglin hybrid crouched down to be at Sally’s level.

“I’ve got to go away for a couple of weeks to go take care of some business” He explained and Sally frowned unhappily.

“Can I go with you?” She asked hopefully but Techno shook his head which made her pout slightly.

“Sorry Sally, not this time. Besides you and your dad were going to practise your flying you don’t want to miss that do you?” He questioned and Sally’s disappointed frown disappeared as she perked up and flapped her wings happily.

“Alright but you’ve got to get me the best gift ever while you’re gone” She stated seriously and Techno chuckled in amusement as he reached over to ruffle her snow-white locks.

“It’ll be the best gift ever” He promised and Sally grinned brightly before scurrying out of the room.

“You spoil her” Cyrus said in amusement and Techno chuckled as he stood back up.

“I would never” He fired back equally teasingly as he slipped out of the room to pack while Cyrus just chuckled fondly, he was so glad he sent that letter all those years ago

## A King's Prized Prisoner

Techno wiped his sword clean of blood as he stared down at the decapitated form of the once arrogant king before turning to face the princess, who the king had attempted to sacrifice to save his own pathetic life which had not gone very well for him.

"I suggest you leave now before the rioters arrive" He stated seriously and she nodded as she swung a satchel over her shoulder, she was already prepped and ready to run having been the one to let him into the castle in the first place and she knew no matter the outcome she would have to run. She turned to leave before hesitating and turning to face him once more.

"My father kept a special prisoner in the dungeons that he would only allow those deep within his pocket to see. He seemed to be trying to turn them into a weapon of some kind. If you could please free them I would be most grateful" She requested softly and he simply nodded, she gave him a small smile before disappearing down the hall alongside a maid who took her hand into her own.

He stared after them for a moment before turning on his heel and heading towards where he believed the dungeons to be, they were cold and lifeless with blood splattering almost every cell but they were also unnerving empty. Eventually, he came across a cell that was different from the others, it was completely sealed off and had six different kinds of locks.

"Who exactly deserved this much containment?" He muttered questioningly as he slipped out his axe to break the locks before cracking open the heavy metal door, immediately he had to shield his eyes as the room was blindingly bright.

He squinted slightly as his eyes adjusted to the light before glancing around the room only for his heart to sink when he caught sight of the only occupant. They were a child likely no older than Sally, he was huddled in the fetal position shielding his eyes from the light while weak little whimpers escaped him.

*Child?*

*Child Pog!*

*He's hurt!*

*Blood for the Blood God!*

*Save him!*

*E*

*Child!*

*Child hurt!*

E

*Blood for the Blood God!*

*The light hurts him!*

He smashed his axe against the light sources earning him a shocked gasp from the child, with the light gone he had to blink a few times to adjust his vision before he rushed off towards the child.

“Hey it’s okay now, the lights are gone” He mumbled softly as his hands hovered around not sure how he would react to touch. He trembled slightly before hesitantly lifting his head and Techno’s eyes widened as he met a pair of pure white eyes that were slightly glowing in the dark.

“Y-your, not King B-Bernard” He stuttered out in surprise and Techno tried to give him a reassuring smile.

“He won’t be able to bother you anymore” He said comfortingly which had the little one’s tiny shoulder slumping in relief before he tilted his head to the side curiously.

“Y-your a h-hybrid, li-like me” He muttered in surprise as he reached out with a skinny arm and touched one of Techno’s tusks.

“Like you?” Techno questioned and the child withdrew his hand shakily which allowed Techno to just barely see the grey tips of his fingers, a wither hybrid.

“Is that why he kept you prisoner?” He asked softly and the little one nodded as he brought his hands close to his chest.

“H-he wanted to u-use me ag-against his enemies” He mumbled brokenly as tears welled up in his eyes and Techno felt his heartbreak for the child.

“I’m going to get you out of here okay? You’ll never have to worry about being used as a weapon ever again okay?” He explained gently and the kid stared up at him with such a hopeful expression that it made his heartbreak just a little bit more.

“Please?” He practically begged which snapped what little self-control Techno had as he quickly scooped him up in his arms, his blood boiling in anger over just how light the child was and he wished that he had made that pathetic king suffer a little bit more before he killed him.

“Everything is going to be okay now” He promised softly as he quickly left the cell only for the child to immediately start whimpering from the light in the hall, he floundered for a minute before he took off his cape and wrapped it around the child’s head to shield his eyes.

“There that should keep your eyes safe” Techno mumbled softly and the child buried his face into the piglin hybrid chest in relief.

“So what’s your name bud?” He asked as he carefully slipped out of the dungeon and kept a lookout for anyone who would dare try and stop him.

“B-Briar” He mumbled tiredly and Techno hummed softly as he adjusted his arms slightly to make Briar more comfortable.

“I’m Techno” He introduced himself softly and Briar hummed as he cuddled a little bit closer to him.

“Th-thank you for sa-saving me Mr. Techno” He mumbled sleepily before closing his eyes and falling asleep. Techno just held him protectively as he slipped out of the castle, no one would ever hurt this child again if it was the last thing he ever did.

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Cyrus hummed softly to himself as he prepared a cup of tea only to perk up slightly when he heard the door open and Techno’s familiar footsteps approaching.

“I didn’t think you’d get back so soon” He remarked in amusement as he turned around only for his teacup to slip out of his hand and shatter on the ground as he saw the extremely malnourished child in his friend’s arms.

“Surprise” Techno announced sheepishly.

## Your Eyes Are Special Not Monsterous

Sally pouted slightly as she glanced towards one of the guest rooms, Papa had brought someone home with him last night but he and Dad had been very secretive about it and wouldn't let her meet the person, which just wasn't fair. Her pout vanished as she watched the two men leave the room as an idea came to her.

"What do you think mom, should I do it?" She asked as she turned to look at the picture of her mom on the fridge, when no refusal came she grinned brightly and snuck her way over to the guest room. She glanced around briefly to make sure her dads weren't in the vicinity before slipping into the room.

She squinted a little in confusion when she realized the lights were dimmed before she glanced towards the bed only for her eyes to widen in surprise when she saw that the person was a kid just like her! Though she couldn't help but tilt her head in confusion when she saw that he was wearing sunglasses, Dad always said you weren't supposed to wear them inside.

"Hi, I'm Sally!" She announced as she stepped further into the room only to pause when the kid jumped in shock.

"Sorry" She mumbled sheepishly and the kid tilted their head curiously.

"Um hi" He mumbled back which made Sally grin as she scrabbled up onto the bed so that she could properly face him.

"What's your name?" She asked eagerly and the kid tilted their head to the other side before responding.

"Briar" He mumbled softly which made Sally's grin brighten.

"It's nice to meet you, Briar, why do you wear sunglasses?" She asked curiously only to frown slightly when she saw how Briar tensed up.

"My eyes are... sensitive to the light" He mumbled softly as he reached up and fiddled with the glasses almost self-consciously while Sally's eyes widened in awe.

"They must be super special then!" She exclaimed eagerly and Briar stared at her in surprise for a moment before he ducked his head uncomfortably.

"People say that they're creepy and mon-monstrous" He muttered sadly and Sally frowned not liking the thought of people making her new friend sad. She hopped off of the bed and switched off the lights so that the whole room was dark before hopping up back onto the bed.

"Show me" She requested softly and Briar tensed up fearfully.

"It's okay" Sally said softly as she squeezed Briar's knee comfortingly, he hesitated for a moment before taking in a deep breath and slipping the sunglasses off. Sally smiled widely in

awe when she saw the softly glowing white eyes.

“They’re like little stars!” She gushed eagerly which made Briar’s jaw drop slightly in surprise.

“You… you don’t think they’re creepy?” He questioned stunned and Sally shook her head with a bright grin on her face.

“No way! They’re just like my mom! Or well kinda, hers glow purple not white but other than that they are basically the same!” She chirped and Briar tilted his head curiously.

“Really?” He questioned and Sally nodded rapidly.

“Yep! She’s a goddess which means her eyes are super cool just like yours!” She announced brightly and Briar grinned a little bashfully.

“She sounds cool” He said shyly and Sally nodded brightly.

“I don’t get to see her very often cause her godly work keeps her busy but I have my Dad and Papa so I’m never lonely” She remarked and Briar nodded in understanding.

“What about you? What are your parents like?” Sally asked curiously and Briar frowned as he glanced down at his hands.

“I… I don’t remember, everything from before King Bernard took me away is… blurry” He mumbled sadly as he curled in on himself which made Sally frown sadly before she reached over to pull him into a hug.

“Don’t worry we can share my dads which will make us siblings and then you’ll never be alone again” She decided and Briar blinked up at her in surprise.

“R-really?” He stuttered out in surprise and Sally nodded strongly.

“Thank you” Briar mumbled as he cuddled closer and Sally hummed softly as she wrapped her wings protectively around her new little brother, no one was ever going to hurt him as long as she could help it.

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“I’ve brought some soup if you’re up to eating Briar” Cyrus announced as he pushed the door open only to pause in the doorway when he saw Briar and Sally cuddled up and sleeping on the bed. A warm smile appeared on his face as he slipped out of the room, it seemed like everyone had already grown attached to the young wither hybrid.

## Crowns

Briar giggled softly to himself as he placed Techno's crown on his head and looked at himself in the mirror, it was slipping off slightly since it was too big but it still looked really cool.

"So that's where my crown went" Techno remarked as he leaned against the doorframe which made Briar tense up and quickly took the crown off as he turned to face him.

"I'm sorry! I-I just wanted to look at it!" He exclaimed in a panic and Techno frowned sadly, even after a year Briar was still anxious around him and Cyrus especially if he thought he'd done something wrong.

"Hey, it's okay you're not in trouble" He said reassuringly as he crouched down to be at Briar's level who quickly handed him the crown.

"Do you like it?" He asked as he gestured to the crown and Briar hesitated for a moment before nodding.

"It's really pretty" He mumbled shyly and Techno hummed thoughtfully as he glanced down at the crown.

"How would you like it if I made you one?" He asked and Briar's jaw dropped slightly as he stared at him in shock.

"I... I can have my own?" He asked hesitantly and Techno nodded as he gave him a reassuring smile.

"Yeah, and it can be any way you like" He remarked and Briar grinned a little shyly.

"Can it have rainbow gems?" He requested shyly and Techno chuckled as he nodded.

"Of course, it can" He said warmly and Briar grinned brightly as he bounced in place slightly.

"Why don't you go play with Sally while I work on it okay?" Techno suggested and Briar nodded rapidly.

"Okay, thank you, Papa!" He chirped brightly as he rushed out of the room and Techno froze in shock before placing a hand on his chest.

"These kids are going to kill me" He muttered with an awed expression on his face before he glanced down at his crown, if Briar wanted a crown he was going to get the best damn crown ever made.

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Briar hummed softly as he swayed in place slightly while Sally played her fiddle, she was still learning but it already sounded really good.

"Hey, Briar I've got something for you" Techno announced as he stepped into the room and when Briar turned to look his eyes went wide when he saw the crown in the piglin hybrids hands.

"Here you go" Techno mumbled as he placed the crown on Briar's head who had the brightest smile he had ever seen on his face, the crown slipped to the side slightly as he had made a bit big so that Briar could grow into it.

"Thank you, Papa!" Briar gushed eagerly as he gently touched the crown while Sally moved closer with an awed expression on her face.

"You're welcome Briar" Techno mumbled softly with a warm smile on his face.

"Wow, you're like a real prince!" Sally exclaimed in awe and Briar giggled happily as he bounced in place. A small frown appeared on Sally's face as she rushed off and Techno was worried that she was upset but the young avian returned with a wooden practice sword in hand.

"I will be your mighty knight and protect you from all evils!" Sally announced as she held up her sword and Briar grinned as he picked up a red blanket off the floor and tied it around his neck like a cape.

"Come, Knight Sally, we must gather cookies to have a mighty feast!" Briar announced cheerfully before he and Sally marched out of the room with the occasional giggle escaping them.

And all Techno could do was watch on with a warm smile on his face.

# Stubborn Little Trash Panda

Cyrus hummed softly to himself as he flipped through his book only to pause when he felt someone tug on his sleeve and saw that Briar was staring up at him with a confused look on his face.

“What’s up, Briar? Something wrong?” He asked curiously as he placed his book down and Briar shook his head as he pointed towards the back door.

“The garbage can outside is wiggling” He explained confused and Techno groaned from the other side of the room.

“Damn raccoons” He grumbled as he stood up to go deal with the problem while Briar and Sally trailed after him while Cyrus went back to his book. Once they entered the backyard Techno immediately spotted the wiggling trash can and the striped tail sticking out of it, though it was an odd colour being a more blonde shade and white than the normal grey and black.

“Okay, you little pest it’s time to go” He grumbled as he reached down and picked the raccoon up by the tail, however, it wasn’t a raccoon that he picked up but a raccoon hybrid. The scrawny little blonde boy growled and tried to swipe at his hand but had little success.

“Let go you fuck face!” The raccoon hybrid screeched angrily as he furiously wiggled in place and Techno rearranged his grip on the kid so that he was holding his waist instead of his tail.

“Why were you going through our trash?” He questioned gruffly and the kid glared at him as he struggled.

“Food” He huffed petulantly as he stopped squirming when he realized he couldn’t get loose, Techno frowned slightly as he shifted his grip slightly and felt each of the kid’s ribs.

“Garbage isn’t food though” Sally remarked confused only to groan slightly when Briar rammed his elbow into her side while the blonde turned to glare at her.

“My food” He growled as he resumed struggling and Techno sighed tiredly.

“Where are your parent’s kid?” He questioned and the blonde glared at him but the tears welling up in his eyes were answer enough, he let out another sigh before he brought the kid closer to his chest and rearranged his grip to properly carry him while ignoring the claws now digging into his back.

“Let’s get you a proper meal” He mumbled simply as he headed back into the house with Briar and Sally once again trailing behind him.

“Papa makes a really good potato soup, you’ll really like it” Briar promised soothingly, knowing from experience that the kid probably wouldn’t be able to stomach more than soup.

The blonde stared at him for a moment before relaxing and taking his claws out of Techno's back.

"Did you take care of the raccoon?" Cyrus asked as he turned away from his book only for his eyes to widen when he saw the child in Techno's arms.

"Do you think you can reheat the soup we had for dinner?" Techno asked and Cyrus nodded as he quickly slipped out of the room while Techno sat down on the couch with Briar and Sally sitting on either side.

"My name is Sally and that's Briar, what's your name?" Sally asked curiously as she leaned a little closer to the kid who stared at her with a guarded look in his eyes.

"Ezran" He finally mumbled and Sally grinned brightly as she attempted to get Ezran to talk some more alongside Briar. Techno meanwhile was running his fingers through Ezran's hair frowning sadly at just how tangled and matted it was, it was nearly as bad as Briar's had been which meant a lot of it would have to be cut off. He would also need a bath as he was absolutely caked in grime.

"Ezran, how long were you alone?" He asked softly and Ezran scrunched his face up slightly as he avoided eye contact.

"Long time" He mumbled tiredly as he ducked his head slightly and Sally frowned sadly before reaching forward and pulling the younger boy into a hug which startled Ezran a fair bit.

"Don't worry you can stay with us and you'll never have to be alone again" She promised seriously and Briar nodded passionately as he joined the hug, Ezran blinked in confusion before a hesitant smile appeared on his face as he melted into the hug and Techno just smiled proudly at his kids.

"Soups done" Cyrus announced as he stepped into the room with a bowl in hand.

"Here you go, bud" Cyrus said warmly as he handed Ezra the bowl after Sally and Briar pulled away. Ezran sniffed at the soup suspiciously before taking a small sip, his eyes went wide at the taste and he immediately started gobbling it down.

"Slow down you don't want to upset your stomach" Briar advised softly and while Ezran softly muttered something that sounded like bitch under his breath he did slow down to a more reasonable speed.

Cyrus smiled softly at the sight before him, it looked like their little nest just got a little bit bigger.

## My Little Brother

Sally hummed softly to herself as she glanced at all of the displays alongside Ezran who was holding her hand while their dad bought some medicine for Briar, who had caught a bit of a cold after playing in the rain with Ezran the other day.

“I can’t believe they let pests like that in here” A lady remarked to her friend as she side-eyed Ezran in disgust. Sally felt a flare of anger well up inside of her while Ezran wrapped his tail around himself self-consciously, this town was usually very hybrid-friendly but travellers tended to be really nasty and didn’t know how to keep their ignorant opinions to themselves.

“Honestly the owners should keep an eye on it, everyone knows those things are little thieves” The other lady remarked just as nastily and Sally gritted her teeth angrily before she plastered on a smile and crouched down to Ezran’s height.

“Hey, Ez why don’t you go stand with Dad for a moment okay?” She suggested and Ezran gave her a confused look before nodding and scurrying away. Sally stared after him for a moment before the smile slipped off of her face and turned towards the two ladies who were still gossiping.

“His name is Ezran and he is a sweet little boy who is my little brother and who does not deserve your ignorant remarks so shut the hell up!” She growled as she puffed her wings up threateningly and the two women stared at her scandalized.

“How dare you speak to us like that!” One of the ladies nearly shrieked.

“Everyone knows vermin like that aren’t real people but I suppose your tiny bird brain wouldn’t recognize that” The other lady sneered and Sally bared her teeth angrily at the remark but before she could launch herself at her one of the store owners approached.

“What seems to be the problem here?” He questioned sternly and Sally relaxed a tiny bit knowing that she would finally have some support as Lucian would never stand for what these women were saying.

“This little brat is harassing us!” The first lady shrieked and Lucian gave her a very unimpressed look.

“They were calling Ezran a pest, and a vermin and that he’s not a person” Sally stated and Lucian pursed his lips in thought as he glanced towards where Cyrus was speaking to a slightly upset-looking Ezran before he turned to face the two ladies.

“Bigots like yourselves are not welcome in my store, so get lost” He stated seriously as he flared his wings slightly and the two women stared at him flabbergasted before they left in an angry huff, shouting about how awful the store was anyway.

Lucian let out a tired sigh before he turned to look at Sally with a soft smile on his face.

“You okay kid?” He asked softly and Sally nodded with a bright grin on her face.

“I’m fine thank you Uncle Luc” He said gratefully and Lucian chuckled as he reached over to ruffle the younger avian’s hair.

“Anytime kid, now why don’t you run back to your dad okay?” He suggested and Sally nodded before scurrying off back to her dad and Ezran, proud with the knowledge that her little brother’s honour had been defended.

## A Cardboard Box

Cyrus whistled softly to himself as he headed back towards the house with groceries in hand and Ezran up on his shoulders.

“Why can’t we fly??” Ezran whined as he played with Cyrus’ hair who chuckled fondly.

“I can’t carry the groceries and you Ez” He explained and he didn’t have to see Ezra’s face to know that he was definitely pouting.

“But next time Sally and I go for a fly you can come okay?” He promised and the little racoon hybrid clapped his hands happily at this decision which melted Cyrus’ heart.

“What’s that?” Ezran suddenly asked as he pointed at something on the side of the road and when Cyrus turned to look he saw it was a simple cardboard box.

“It’s probably just trash” He remarked which made Ezran perk up curiously.

“Can I look at it?” He asked eagerly and Cyrus chuckled fondly as he took Ezran off of his shoulders, the young blonde still liked rooting through the trash as he claimed that’s where the best treasures were and as long as he wasn’t eating the trash Cyrus didn’t see a problem with it.

Ezran cheered excitedly as he rushed over towards the box and opened it up only for his excited grin to slip right off of his face only to be replaced by a worried expression.

“Dad!” He cried out in alarm and Cyrus frowned worriedly as he quickly jogged closer wondering if some monster had left an animal in it. Ezran had such a big heart and absolutely loved animals he had even adopted one of their chicken and named her Ellie.

Cyrus’ heart froze up in horror as he saw inside of the box and instead of seeing an animal, he saw a child, a young ram hybrid likely around the same age as Ezran curled up into a tight ball as he shivered.

He immediately dropped the groceries and crouched down next to Ezran who looked very worried, he reached into the box and gently placed a hand on the kid’s shoulder which made him jump in fright and stare up at him with big fearful yellow eyes.

“Hey, it’s okay no one’s going to hurt you, you’re safe” Cyrus mumbled softly and the little boy tilted his head slightly.

“Safe?” He questioned and Cyrus smiled gently at him as he nodded.

“Yes safe” He promised as he opened his arms invitingly and the boy hesitated for a moment before crawling out of the box and onto his lap, Cyrus’ heart broke a little more as he wrapped his arms protectively around the kid, he was absolutely freezing. They had

experienced their first frost of the season this morning so he couldn't imagine just how cold it must have been in this box with nothing but ratty clothes to keep him warm.

He glanced towards Ezran who was watching on with a concerned expression on his face as he played with his tail anxiously.

"Ezran, can you run ahead and get your siblings so they can bring the groceries in?" He requested softly and Ezran nodded strongly, he cast one more cornered look towards the ram hybrid before he turned on his heel and sprinted the rest of the way to the house.

Cyrus stared after him for a moment before glancing back at the little boy in his arms who had nuzzled his face close to his chest to soak up his warmth.

"What's your name bud?" He asked softly and the little boy blinked a few times to keep himself awake before he responded.

"The... Theodore... but I like Theo better" He mumbled sleepily and Cyrus smiled softly down at him.

"Well Theo my name's Cyrus and I'm going to protect you from now on okay?" He explained gently and Theo smiled tiredly as he nuzzled a little bit closer.

"That's nice" He mumbled sleepily as his eyes slipped shut and he fell asleep. Cyrus hummed as he gently rocked him before glancing down the road and was able to spot Ezran, Sally and Briar making their way towards him.

"Woah he's even tinier than Ezran" Sally remarked as she glanced down at Theo while ignoring the way Ezran swatted at her for daring to imply that he was anything but a big man.

"Can you two get the groceries?" He requested and Briar and Sally both nodded.

"Of course, Dad" Briar said simply as he and Sally picked up the groceries while he stood with Theo held protectively.

"Let's go home" He announced as he began leading everyone towards the house and Ezran gripped his pant leg so that he could keep up with him.

"Is he going to be my new brother?" Ezran asked curiously and Cyrus glanced at Theo thoughtfully for a moment before he smiled down at Ezran.

"Yes, Ezran he is" He said softly and Ezran grinned brightly as he walked with a new pep in his step.

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"What do you mean you're older than me?!" Ezran shrieked while Sally and Briar laughed and Theo just tilted his head to the side in confusion.

## Mini Chaos Makers

Sally smiled happily to herself as she placed her fiddle back in its case, her new song was coming along nicely. However, as she closed the latch she suddenly paused and sniffed the air with a confused look on her face, was that smoke? She placed her guitar down and wandered out of her room to get to the bottom of this only for her jaw to drop when she entered the kitchen.

A small fire was roaring in the middle of the kitchen while Ezran and Theo roasted marshmallows and Briar watched on from where he was sitting on the counter eating cookies.

“What is going on here?!” She questioned in alarm, their dads had left her in charge of the others while they were out of town and if they came back to a burned-down house they would have her head!

Ezran and Theo shared a look before grinning and holding up their sticks that had three marshmallows on them each.

“Roasting marshmallows!” They chirped in unison and Sally placed a hand on her forehead in disbelief before she turned to look at Briar who had an amused look on his face.

“Why didn’t you stop them? Or come get me?” She questioned and Briar grinned lazily as he shrugged his shoulders.

“My silence was bought” He said casually as he popped another cookie into his mouth and Sally gripped her hair in disbelief, usually she had no problem with Ezran and Theo getting into a bit of mischief but not when she was the one who would get in trouble for it!

“I’m so dead” She groaned and Ezran tilted his head in confusion.

“Sissy calm yourself, have a marshmallow” He remarked as he held out his stick that had slightly burnt marshmallows on it and Sally’s stressed expression melted away as a warm smile appeared on her face.

“Did you just call me Sissy?” She asked teasingly and Ezran’s face went bright red in embarrassment.

“No, I didn’t bitch!” He shrieked angrily as he shoved his marshmallows back into the fire while Theo and Briar laughed. Sally just smiled warmly at her little brother, however, that smile quickly slipped off of her face as she heard the front door open and close.

“Kids were home!” Dad called out and Sally winced as she turned towards the entrance where she could hear their footsteps approaching.

“Why do I smell fire?” Papa questioned and Briar snickered as he shoved another cookie into his mouth.

“You’re so dead” He pointed out and Sally just groaned as she accepted his fate.

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Sally blinked slowly in disbelief as her Papa roasted marshmallows with Ezran and Thep while her Dad snacked on cookies with Briar. She let out a tired sigh before taking a few cookies for herself, their reactions really shouldn’t have surprised her.

# A Feral Dragon Protecting Her Hoard

## Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for [notes](#)

Techno grunted in annoyance as he wiped his brow, when rumours of a vicious beast stealing livestock from farmers had begun to spread he had decided that hunting it down would be a good training exercise for Sally and Briar but the cave that the beast resided in was an absolute labyrinth.

“I hate caves” Sally grumbled as she puffed up her wings slightly while Briar simply shrugged, the darkness of the cave felt great on his eyes.

Techno rolled his shoulder as he contemplated calling it quits and simply chalking up the missing livestock as them getting loose but before he could come to a decision Briar made a curious sound as he stepped forward slightly.

“Look at this” He remarked as he pointed towards a small crevice in the cave wall where some light was seeping out.

“Do you think that’s where the beast is hiding?” Sally asked curiously as she also stepped closer and Techno simply hummed thoughtfully.

“Keep your guards up” He ordered and the two of them nodded as they slipped their swords out while he pushed on the wall where the light was coming from and a disguised door slowly creaked open.

“Wow” Briar mumbled in awe as the three of them stepped into the new area and they were met with a beautiful cavern with amethysts scattered around the walls and a gorgeous waterfall. While Briar and Sally admired the cavern's natural beauty Techno's gaze landed on a large nest and sitting inside of it was a very young and very scared-looking enderman hybrid clutching a baby close to his chest.

“Go away!” He squeaked loudly which caught Sally and Briar's attention who perked curiously at the sight of the young hybrid. Techno's eyes narrowed slightly as he glanced around, endermen don't make nests so who does this belong to?

“Hi, there!” Sally chirped as she went to take a step forward but Techno immediately held a hand out to stop her when a furious growl echoed across the cavern and a body dropped down in front of the nest protectively with a pair of wings spread wide.

Techno's eyes widened in shock when he met the glowing red eyes of a furious ender dragon hybrid and a young one at that, likely no older than Sally or Briar. Ender dragon hybrids were some of the rarest types of hybrids right there with wither hybrids and seeing one in the Overworld was even more shocking.

"**Џуџов Тен! Џаји!**" She growled dangerously as purple partials leaked from her mouth and Techno searched through his mind for a solution, it was clear that she had entered a feral state to protect the enderman hybrid and the baby so talking likely wouldn't get him anywhere but he also didn't want to hurt the kid.

Techno snapped out of his train of thought when he noticed Briar stepping forward with an aura of determination and without his sword drawn, he reached out to stop him but he just kept walking forward.

"We mean you no harm, my name is Briar and I'm a hybrid just like you and so are my family" Briar said calmly as he held out his hands to show off his grey fingertips while also allowing his glasses to slip down slightly to show off his white eyes.

The ender dragon hybrid tilted her head slightly as the purple particles disappeared and she sniffed the air curiously before glancing at Sally's wings and then at Techno's tusks before standing up straight while the red glow seeped out of her eyes leaving behind guarded red eyes.

"What's your name?" Briar prompted softly and the ender dragon hybrid stared at him tensely for a few moments before responding.

"Dawn... Why are you here?" She questioned gruffly and Briar gave her a calming smile.

"Rumours were beginning to spread of a beast stealing livestock from the village and we came to investigate" He explained and Dawn gritted her teeth slightly.

"Are you the one taking the livestock?" Sally asked softly as she stepped forward and Dawn growled.

"I had to feed us somehow!" She snapped defensively and Sally held her hands up in a sign of peace while Techno chanced a glance at the enderman hybrid and noticed that he seemed to be a mix of something else as well and the baby had tiny wings peaking out, another ender dragon hybrid.

"And there's nothing wrong with that but why didn't you try asking?" She questioned softly and Dawn deflated slightly as she turned her head to the side.

"You can't trust humans all they do is hurt you" She muttered and Techno's eyes immediately landed on the scar over her right eye and couldn't help but wonder who had caused it and why.

"Then you can come with us" Briar suggested and Dawn blinked slowly in confusion as she turned to look at him.

"What?" She muttered in disbelief.

"All of us are hybrids and you would have a safe and warm place to stay with plenty of food for you and your family" Sally explained eagerly and Dawn glanced between her and Briar with a confused look on her face before her eyes narrowed in on Techno.

“You haven’t said anything” She pointed out suspiciously and Techno gave her a soft look.

“Our home is open to you all if you need a safe place to stay” He stated seriously and Dawn stared at him in surprise before her eyes narrowed once again.

“How do I know I can trust you?” She questioned and Sally walked closer with a confident expression on her face.

“I will make a blood oath with you that if I or my family intentionally hurts you or your family in any way then you can take my life as payment” She stated seriously as she cut her palm and held it out towards a shocked Dawn while Techno nearly chocked on his spit, where did Sally learn about blood oaths?!

Dawn stared at Sally’s hand in shock for a moment before she cut her palm and shook her hand, a white and red light encased their hands before turning gold as the deal was sealed.

“Thank you” Dawn mumbled softly with a slight smile on her face which Sally returned brightly.

“Welcome to the family, I’m Sally” She chirped and Dawn’s smile widened slightly before she turned towards the nest and gestured for the enderman hybrid to come over, which he quickly did with the baby still held protectively in his arms.

“This is Vesper, he’s an enderman hybrid and something else we’re not quite sure” Dawn explained and Sally smiled brightly at the young boy.

“I’m sure you’ll get along great with Ezrana and Theo, they’re about your age I think” She remarked and Vesper grinned eagerly while Dawn gently took the baby into her arms.

“And this is Serena, she’s an ender dragon hybrid like me” She remarked as she cuddled her closer and Sally awed softly at the sight.

“I heard ender dragon hybrids are rather rare” Briar remarked curiously and Dawn grinned a little bit.

“So are wither hybrids” She pointed out and Briar grinned in amusement.

“I guess we’re all a little special” He said with a chuckle and Dawn’s grin grew in agreement.

“If you don’t mind me asking, why are the three of you in the Overworld instead of the End?” Techno asked softly and his eyes narrowed ever so slightly when he noticed the way Dawn tensed and her grip tightened on Serena slightly while Vesper shifted further behind her anxiously.

“It doesn’t matter” She muttered stubbornly and Techno simply nodded as he placed a protective hand on the blonde’s shoulder.

“You’ll be safe with us” He promised seriously and Dawn blinked up at him in surprise for a moment before she melted into his hand slightly, it felt nice to be the protected instead of the

protector for once.

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Cyrus smiled softly as he watched all of the kids getting along, Ezran especially was very happy to finally not be the youngest. But he couldn't help but frown thoughtfully as he glanced at Dawn and Serena.

"Is something wrong?" Techno questioned as he came to stand next to his friend who hummed as he shook his head.

"Godly blood runs through their veins" Cyrus muttered as he used his chin to gesture towards Dawn and Serena which made Techno's eyes widen in shock, if that was true then the reason they fled the End might be even more serious than he thought.

"What do we do?" He questioned and Cyrus was silent for a moment before responding.

"We keep them safe" He stated seriously and Techno nodded strongly in agreement, Dawn, Serena and Vesper were a part of their family now and no one would ever hurt them as long as they could help it.

## Chapter End Notes

Ender: ルウド、この場所を離れて！

English: Leave this place!

## You Don't Have To Be Strong All The Time

"What are you staring at?" Briar asked curiously as he approached Sally who was looking through the window with a thoughtful look in her eyes.

"She's doing it again" She mumbled softly and Briar frowned sadly as he glanced out the window as well and saw Dawn making another round around the house with a guarded look in her eyes.

It's been about two weeks since Dawn, Vesper and Serena joined the family and since then Dawn had decided it was her job to protect everyone, she had grown incredibly attached to everyone, especially Ezran and Theo. But she was running herself ragged with her paranoia and since Dad and Papa were out of town her protective paranoia had gone up by a hundred per cent.

"Has she eaten today? Or had any water?" Briar asked and Sally shook her head as her frown deepened.

"I don't think she's even slept in the last twenty-four hours" She muttered unhappily and Briar sighed sadly, neither of them fully understood why Dawn felt like she needed to keep everyone safe but they both knew that she needed to learn that her own health mattered.

"What should we do?" Briar asked softly and Sally sighed in frustration as she shrugged her shoulders, their dads usually knew how to get Dawn to relax but they weren't here and were of no use to them now.

"Is something wrong with Dawn?" Vesper questioned worriedly as he approached the duo who shared a worried look before Sally crouched down and gave the younger boy a reassuring smile.

"She's just working really hard to protect you" She explained softly but this didn't reassure Vesper and instead he frowned sadly as he clutched his cat plushie close to his chest.

"She's going to get hurt" He mumbled sadly, Sally and Briar shared a worried look before Briar crouched down as well.

"What do you mean Ves?" He asked softly and Vesper glanced down at the floor sadly.

"Dawn's been protecting me for as long as I can remember but bad people always hurt her and-and I don't wanna lose her like Mommy and Daddy I-I can't" He sobbed brokenly as tears slipped down his cheeks which made a sizzling sound as they burned him. Sally quickly rushed forward to try and prevent any extensive damage while Briar watched on sadly.

"Ves..." Dawn mumbled heartbrokenly from where she was standing in the doorway and Vesper sobbed as he held his arms out towards Dawn who quickly swept him up into a tight hug.

"P-please d-don't go away!" Vesper sobbed brokenly as he clung tightly to Dawn who clung back just as tightly as a few tears slipped down her own face, she never realized just how worried Vesper was about her.

She glanced up when she felt a hand on her shoulder and saw Sally giving her a soft look.

"You don't have to be the strong protector all of the time" She mumbled softly and Dawn furrowed her eyebrows in confusion.

"But-" She began to say but was gently shushed by Briar.

"Let us share that weight, let us protect you too" He said softly. Dawn didn't know how to respond so she just nodded softly as she returned her attention to her little brother while her new siblings wrapped their arms around her in a protective embrace.

## Rainy Days Are No Fun

“Be careful you three!” Briar called out fondly as Ezran and Theo dragged Vesper off to go play in the woods nearby.

“We will be!” The trio announced in unison amidst their giggling, Briar smiled warmly at them for a moment before he went back to hiding Sally’s fiddle so that the stubborn avian would take a nap instead of stressing over her newest song.

“Alright as your leader you must do as I say!” Ezran announced cheerfully as the three of them stopped in a small clearing. A mischievous expression immediately appeared on Theo’s face at this announcement.

“Down with the hierarchy!” He shouted as he tackled Ezran who hissed in mock outrage as they began wrestling on the ground.

“You two are ridiculous” Vesper giggled as he watched on only for a brief frown to appear on his face when he felt a slight burning feeling on his shoulder but he ultimately ignored it when he got dragged into the wrestling match as well. None of them noticed just how dark the clouds were getting.

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“It looks like it’s going to rain” Briar mused softly as he glanced out the window while Sally searched through the living room for her fiddle.

“Can you at least give me a hint” She whined dramatically and Briar just smirked at her while Dawn walked into the room with a concerned look on her face.

“Have either of you seen Vesper?” She questioned and while Sally shook her head a horrified expression appeared on Briar’s face.

“He went out to play with Ezran and Theo” He mumbled in horror which made Sally and Dawn’s eyes widen in alarm. Without missing a beat the trio sprinted out of the house and into the woods hoping to find the trio before it started pouring.

“Dinners done!” Cyrus announced as he stepped into the room only to pause when he saw that it was empty, he blinked a few times before glancing down at Serena who was happily playing with one of his discarded feathers.

“Do you know where they all went?” He questioned and she just giggled up at him happily which made him smile fondly as he cuddled her closer.

“More for us then” He chuckled fondly as went back into the kitchen not noticing the soft pitter-patter of rain hitting the window.

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“Mine’s the biggest” Theo announced cheerfully as he held up a pretty big frog while Ezran huffed and cuddled his slightly smaller frog close to his chest.

“Size doesn’t matter, Cindy is twice the frog than yours will ever be! Right, Vesper?” He stated as he turned to look at the half-enderman hybrid only to frown when he noticed the slight grimace of pain on his face.

“Ves?” He questioned softly as he placed Cindy down and approached his brother with Thep following suit, which is when they both noticed the slight drizzle.

“Hurts” Vesper whimpered as he wrapped his arms around himself and Ezran and Theo’s eyes widened in horror when they saw a raindrop land on Vesper’s cheek only for it to start sizzling.

“Vesper!” They both cried out as they desperately tried to shield the taller boy from the rain with very little success. Ezran whipped his head around looking for somewhere to hide and his eyes immediately landed on a small cave.

“Over there!” He cried out and the trio quickly sprinted towards it with a few more whimpers escaping Vesper.

Once they were safely hidden away in the cave Ezran and Theo pulled Vesper in between them so that they could cuddle him protectively, neither of them knowing what to do about the small burns on their brother’s body.

“Why didn’t you say you were hurting?” Theo questioned worriedly and Vesper bit his lip uncomfortably.

“You were having fun” He mumbled and Ezran made a loud noise of protest.

“That’s a stupid reason” He chided grumpily as he cuddled even closer to Vesper who hummed softly.

“Yeah...” He mumbled softly in agreement as he allowed Ezran and Theo to huddle closer to him only for the three of them to perk up slightly when they heard what sounded like shouting in the distance.

“Vesper/Ezran/Theo!” Dawn, Sally and Briar called out worriedly as they scanned the woods for any sight of the three boys.

“Over there!” Briar suddenly announced as he took off running with Sally and Dawn immediately followed after them, their shoulders slumping in relief when they caught sight of the trio huddled together inside of a cave.

“Are you okay?” Dawn immediately questioned as she kneeled in front of them and took note of the small burns on Vesper.

“I’m okay” Vesper mumbled reassuringly and Dawn hummed as she glanced at the other two who stiffened up slightly expecting to be scolded for getting Vesper hurt only for all three of them to be pulled into a tight hug.

"I'm so glad you are all okay" She mumbled softly and the three boys melted into the hug as Briar and Sally joined in.

They would wait out the rain here together in each other's arms.

## Shiny

Ezran stuck his tongue out slightly in concentration as he focused on finishing his last bracelet. When he was last in town with Sally he had found these super sparkly beads and had practically begged her to buy them for him, which she did because the avian was absolutely weak to her little brother's puppy dog eyes.

He hadn't wanted the beads just because they were sparkly despite what Sally had teased him about, he wanted them to make special bracelets for everyone. They were his family and they meant so very much to him that he wanted to show them just how much he cared.

So after making himself a blue and white one, he made a blueish grey one for Sally that matched her wings, a peach one for Dawn cause of her sweater, a rainbow one for Briar cause of his crown, a black and yellow one for Theo because of his hyper fixation on nukes, a red and purple one for Vesper cause of his eyes, a black and white one for Dad cause of his hair and a red one for Papa cause of his eyes.

He had wanted to make one for Serena as well but he was worried that if it broke she might choke on the beads and that would be horrible so he decided he'd wait till she was older to give her one.

He nodded in satisfaction as he finished Papa's bracelet, now that they were all finished he gathered up all of the bracelets and headed for the living room. He poked his head into the room first to check to see if everyone was there.

Dad was sitting on the couch gently rocking a sleeping Serena, Papa was also on the couch reading with Vesper cuddled up into his side, Briar and Dawn were sitting by the fire softly talking, and Sally was playing her fiddle with Theo cuddled up next to her.

After confirming everyone was present he stepped into the room as a sudden anxious feeling filled his gut, what if they didn't like the bracelets?

"Oh there you are Ez, I was wondering where you had wandered off to" Cyrus remarked softly as he glanced at his youngest son only for a worried expression to appear on his face when he saw how anxious he looked.

"Is everything okay?" He asked worriedly which caught everyone else's attention as they turned to look at the young raccoon hybrid who took a deep steady breath.

"I made bracelets for everyone 'cause we're a family and I want everyone to know just how awesome of a family we are" He announced confidently and everyone's hearts melted just a tiny bit.

"That's awesome Ez, let's see them" Dawn prompted warmly and Tommy's tail wagged happily as he presented everyone their bracelets, their hearts melting even further as they received their personalized bracelets.

“What about Serena?” Theo questioned curiously and Ezran frowned a little bit as he gazed at the sleeping baby.

“I didn’t want to risk her choking on the beads” He mumbled sadly and Cyrus smiled warmly as he reached over to gently ruffle the boy’s hair.

“That’s very smart thinking Ezran, I’m proud” He said warmly and Ezran’s tail wagged even more at this.

“My baby brother is just so cute!” Sally announced dramatically as she swept Ezran up into a big bear hug which earned her a startled hiss from the blonde before he attempted to claw Sally’s eyes out while shouting that he was not cute. The others just chuckled fondly as they watched on.

## Young Fighters

“I don’t know what we would do without your shop Luc” Techno huffed in amusement as he collected some medicine for Ezran and Theo while keeping an eye on Briar who was browsing through the different remedies curiously. Lucian hummed fondly in agreement before a serious expression appeared on his face.

“Techno could you do me a favour?” He requested in a hushed tone of voice that immediately caught Techno’s attention.

“That depends, last time I did a favour for you I ended up with three children” He remarked in a mildly teasing tone of voice that made Lucian’s lip twitch upwards in amusement before it became serious once again.

“I had a few guys in here two days ago that were from the next village over and they were discussing what sounded like an illegal fighting ring, a hybrid fighting ring” He revealed after glancing around briefly to make sure no one could overhear them and a deep frown appeared on Techno’s face.

“It gets worse” He warned before Techno could say anything which was something the piglin hybrid feared, there was only one thing that could make an illegal hybrid fighting ring worse.

“The fighter they planned on betting on is a ram hybrid, a young one maybe only a few years older than your son” He revealed grimly and Techno’s heart froze as his mind flashed to his sweet little Theo before it boiled in rage. When he was just a child before the Blood God had chosen him and he became his immortal champion he had grown up in an illegal hybrid fighting ring and he would be damn if he let another child grow up in that kind of environment.

“Tell me everything you know” He stated darkly and Lucian nodded as he pulled out a couple of sheets of paper, neither of them noticed the pair of white eyes staring at them in determination.

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Techno grunted to himself as he filled a bag with different potions and items before hefting it up onto his shoulder, he had already told Cyrus and the kids that he would be gone for a couple of days so now all he had to do was leave before one of them could try and tag along.

“I’m going with you” Briar stated seriously from behind him and he groaned a bit as he turned around and saw Briar standing there with a bag thrown over his shoulder.

“Briar you can’t come with me, I’m not going on some vacation” He tried to reason but Briar just tightened his jaw in determination.

“You’re going to stop an illegal hybrid fighting ring and I want to help you” He stated seriously and Techno’s eyes widened a little in surprise.

“How do you know that?” He questioned shocked.

“I overheard you talking with Uncle Lucian this morning” Briar revealed and Techno cursed a little to himself, he had forgotten that Briar had been with him at the shop and had incredibly good hearing.

“That doesn’t matter this is far too dangerous for you to tag along, you’re not strong enough and you could get hurt” He finally stated seriously as he turned to walk away, believing the conversation was over.

“I don’t care!” Briar snapped angrily and Techno turned around quickly in shock having never heard Briar get so angry before.

“I know better than anyone what it’s like to be held captive and expected to fight for someone unimaginably cruel and I can’t just sit by and let anyone else live through that!” He shouted angrily as a few tears welled up in the corner of his eyes and Techno felt his shoulders slump a little as his thought from earlier slapped him in the face. Could he really deny Briar of this?

“Fine you can come but you better stay close to me” He announced seriously and Briar’s shoulders untensed slightly in relief as he nodded.

“I won’t let you down” He promised and Techno nodded as he headed out the door with Briar following behind him.

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Gabriel narrowed his eyes slightly as his ear twitched, there was a very loud commotion going on outside and in this place that never meant anything good.

“What the fuck is going on out there?” Zoe questioned as she slinked up next to him and Gabriel grunted as the sound of fighting grew closer.

“Nothing good” He grunted as he glanced away from the door to look at her.

“Get behind me just in case” He ordered. It looked like she wanted to argue but she spat out a couple of curses instead and complied, her leg was still broken from her last fight and while she could do a great deal of damage with her claws her lack of mobility would make her more of a hindrance than a help.

They both remained tense as the sound of fighting gradually grew closer before the door to their “room” was slammed open, however, neither of them was prepared for the fact that the person standing there was a kid around their age. He was panting hard and covered in quite a lot of blood with a sword clutched tightly in his hand, he almost seemed to slump in relief when he saw them and turned to the right where the sound of fighting was still coming from.

“Over here!” He called out to someone before he shuffled into the room and sat down in front of Gabriel who was blinking at him baffled.

“This place is stupidly well guarded” He groaned as he rubbed at his side.

“What the fuck are you doing here kid?” Zoe questioned baffled while making an aborted motion as if to grab and protect the kid. Said kid tilted his head to the side slightly as if baffled by her question.

“Putting a stop to this awful place” He said as if it was the most obvious thing in the world.

“Why would a kid, let alone a human one, want to stop a hybrid fighting ring?” Gabriel questioned suspiciously and he could practically feel the unimpressed look the kid was giving him.

“First of all we are like the same age” He pointed out in an unimpressed tone of voice.

“And second of all, not human” He stated as he showed off his grey-tipped fingers and allowed his glasses to slip down his nose revealing his pure white eyes. Zoe and Gabriel gasped softly in shock as they stared into his glowing white eyes.

“Holy shit” Zoe mumbled in surprise and Gabriel nodded numbly in agreement which made the kid grin a bit.

“My name is Briar and my Papa and I are going to get you and everyone else the hell out of here” He promised seriously which made Gabriel and Zoe’s heart lift just a bit in hope at the idea of getting out of this hell hole.

“My top fighters ain’t going anywhere” A voice growled from the doorway which made Gabriel and Zoe stiffen up slightly while Briar whipped around to face the person and saw a slightly deranged-looking man standing there, whose eyes widened in shock as he saw Briar’s eyes.

“Well you’re certainly an exotic-looking pest, I’m sure you’ll bring me in all kinds of money” The man announced greedily and Briar barred his teeth threateningly while a protective rage welled up in Gabriel as he shuffled closer to Briar to try and defend him from Rodrick.

“You won’t be around long enough to get anything from me” Briar stated darkly and Rodrick laughed mockingly.

“Is that right? Well, who’s going to stop me?” He questioned mockingly only to stiffen up when he felt a sword press against his throat.

“I don’t appreciate people threatening my son” Techno growled dangerously into the man’s ear who honestly thought he was going to shit himself, not that he got the chance as Techno quickly slashed his throat and allowed him to slump to the ground without remorse as he glanced at Briar and the two kids next to him.

“What did I say about staying close to me?” He grunted unimpressed and Briar chuckled sheepishly as he shrugged his shoulders.

“Whoops?” He remarked sheepishly and Techno rolled his eyes before focusing on the duo next to his son.

“Let’s get you two out of here” He said softly and Gabriel and Zoe were too stunned to say anything so they just nodded numbly.

They were finally free.

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“This is weird” Zoe mumbled as she cuddled a stupidly fluffy pillow close to her chest and Gabriel hummed in agreement. After escaping the fighting ring Techno and Briar brought them to their home and after briefly meeting the rest of the family they were situated in one of the guest rooms.

“Do we really stay here?” Gabriel questioned and Zoe hummed softly to herself, the two of them had been fighting for so long that they weren’t sure if they could handle such a domestic lifestyle.

“Should we leave?” Zoe asked and Gabriel furrowed his eyebrows in thought but before he could say anything the door creaked open and a small blonde boy that they were pretty sure was named Ezran walked in.

“Since your family now you should have these” He announced as he gave both of them a bracelet, a green one for Gabriel and a purple one for Zoe, he nodded a little to himself before scurrying out of the room leaving the duo to blink down at the bracelets in awe.

“That was super fucking adorable” Zoe mumbled in awe and Gabriel simply nodded in agreement. There was no way they could leave after that so it looks like they would be staying.

## Danger? Nope Little Brother

Gabriel leaned against the wall as he subtly peaked into the living room where the rest of the household currently was, he had taken it upon himself to scope out the potential danger of each person.

Just because he and Zoe had decided to stay didn't mean he was going to get soft anytime soon, Zoe was still injured and he had to make sure none of them would pose a threat to her. Even if she drove him crazy on the best of days she was still his sister and he would kill for her if needed. He had already failed his twin so he sure as shit wasn't about to fail another sister anytime soon.

His eyes immediately landed on the two adults who he already knew were high on the danger spectrum, as soon as he heard their names he had felt immediate fear. Technoblade and Cyrus Everdeen, The Blood God and The Angel of Death, immortal legends who have seen more battle and bloodshed than any living person on the planet.

However, after watching them for a while it was hard to associate these two men with the legends he had heard about. Techno was reading peacefully on his back with a baby whose name he thinks is Serena sleeping on his stomach and a pair of reading glasses perched on the bridge of his nose. Meanwhile, Cyrus was stitching a rip in a large red cape while humming a lullaby under his breath. It was super domestic and not at all what he would expect from immortal legends.

Eventually, he tore his eyes away and instead focused on the three oldest, Sally, Briar and Dawn. At first glance an avian might not seem dangerous, Sally however had the same kinda aura around her as Cyrus but somehow more chilling so she was for sure dangerous.

Briar and Dawn were a wither and ender dragon hybrid respectfully, two of the most powerful and rarest forms of hybrids. So far he hadn't seen any sign of powers emerging in Briar but he knew he was at least a competent fighter so he could pose a threat.

Dawn, on the other hand, seemed to have full control of her abilities and could be very dangerous especially when protecting someone, a robber had foolishly tried breaking in the other night and let's just say that Dawn hadn't appreciated them trying to threaten Vesper.

But he also had to consider the fact that they were also still kids with Dawn and Briar being the same age as himself and Sally only being a year older so while they could be dangerous they weren't on the same level as Techno and Cyrus. And watching the three of them sleepily cuddling together with Ezran and Vesper by the fire he did feel a warmth fill his heart.

Then there were the youngest three, excluding Celeste who was just a baby and likely wasn't a threat. They may seem like sweet innocent kids but he highly doubted they were completely harmless, he saw how Ezran had latched onto that robber's hand which had not been pretty.

He sighed as he poked his head out of the living room, he and Zoe had certainly found themselves in an interesting situation.

“Whatcha doing?” A curious voice questioned and he jumped nearly a foot into the air before glancing down and seeing Theo blinking up at him curiously.

“Nothing” He said simply with a slight shake of his head and Theo tilted his head thoughtfully.

“Did you wanna join us in the living room?” He asked eagerly and Gabriel felt his heart melt a tiny bit, the younger ram hybrid had definitely wormed his way into his heart just a tiny bit.

“Naw I should get back to Zoe, she gets pouty if left alone too long” He remarked and Theo pouted slightly before a bright grin appeared on his face as he reached over and took his hand.

“Then I’ll join you!” He chirped as he began dragging Gabriel towards his and Zoe’s room. Gabriel stared down at the tiny child for a moment before scooping him up into his arms.

“Curse your adorableness” He grumbled as he continued to walk. Theo giggled cheerfully as he head-butted the older ram hybrid’s chin gently which was the straw that broke the camel’s back, Theo was his little brother now and no one was ever going to hurt him.

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“Gabriel you can’t teach a child how to make explosives!” Sally shouted in disbelief and Gabriel gave her an unimpressed look while Theo rushed off to show Ezran and Vesper the mini-bomb they had made.

“Fuck you Sally he’s the one teaching me” He stated uncaringly which made Sally’s jaw drop while Zoe, Dawn and Briar practically cackled.

## A Far To Young Deity

Cyrus hummed softly to himself as he placed Serena down in her crib for the night before turning to get into his bed only to pause when he saw the person sitting there.

“Hello, my light” Elowen greeted warmly and Cyrus smiled warmly as he kissed her cheek before sitting next to her.

“Hello love, what did I do to deserve a visit?” He asked in a mildly teasing tone of voice and Elowen laughed softly before taking Cyrus’ hand into her own.

“I have a request to ask of you and Techno” She replied and Cyrus hummed softly in understanding.

“I’d do anything for you El you know this” He pointed out warmly and she smiled gently before becoming serious.

“I would like you to take in a child” She explained and Cyrus grinned in amusement.

“I don’t know if you’ve noticed but taking in children has kind of become Techno and I’s hobby” He quipped and she chuckled in amused agreement.

“This one is a bit different” She remarked and he tilted his head curiously.

“How so?” He asked and she hummed softly.

“His name is Caspian and he is a young God but not in the same way as Dawn, Briar and Sally who have godly blood, he’s a true God who falls under my realm of life and death” She explained and Cyrus eyes widened slightly.

“Under normal circumstances, I’d take him to the Godly Plain to be raised but he was born with a connection to the Overworld instead so while he can access the Godly Plain he can’t stay there” She explained somberly and Cyrus’ eyes widened in shock, it was extremely rare for a God to not have a connection to the Godly Plain but even in those instances they simply lost their connection over time he had never heard of one being born without a connection.

“So you would like me and Techno to raise him” He summarized and she nodded somberly.

“I fear that if left unattended a less noble God will try and stake a claim on him, as it’s not just my domain his powers fall under but also Adrianna’s as well” She remarked soberly which made Cyrus wince slightly, he was very aware of the tense relationship between the two sisters.

“You needn’t fret dear, we’ll take him in and I’m sure he’ll fit in great” He promised and her shoulders slumped ever so slightly in relief.

“Thank you my light” She said warmly as she pecked his lips and he smiled warmly back at her.

“So where is he? Seeing as you didn’t bring him with you I imagine he’s one of those young Gods who has chosen to isolate themselves” He remarked in mild amusement and she hummed in agreement.

“He’s extraordinarily powerful for one so young and has an affinity for lightning which he can’t fully control so he has isolated himself to the far east of here on an island” She explained and Cyrus nodded in understanding.

“I’ll head out in the morning to go get him” He said and she nodded before tilting her head thoughtfully.

“You should take Dawn, Briar, and Sally with you” She remarked offhandedly and Cyrus raised a curious eyebrow.

“How come?” He asked curiously and she hummed a little to herself.

“Just a feeling” She replied and Cyrus tilted his head curiously before nodding.

“Well, a feeling is what led to us meeting so I suppose I should follow it” He remarked playfully and she chuckled in amusement before standing up.

“Now I have some gifts to deliver to the children before I have to leave” She announced cheerfully and Cyrus chuckled fondly as he stood up as well.

“I sure hope you brought some skirts for Briar this time because they have practically stolen all of Sally’s and Zoe’s” He remarked in amusement and Elowen grinned brightly.

“Of course I also found this sweet little dress with roses on it that I think she’ll adore” She remarked eagerly as the two of them left the room and Cyrus grinned warmly, tomorrow would be a very big day but for now he was just happy to spend time with his wife.

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“This place is gorgeous” Cyrus mumbled in awe as he, Briar, Dawn and Sally took in the beautiful architect of the island.

“So how do we find this God?” Dawn asked as she glanced away from one of the pyramids and Briar tilted her head before pointing at something to the left of them.

“I’m going to go out on a limb and say he’s over there” She remarked. Cyrus, Dawn and Sally sweatdropped when they turned and saw lightning crackling around the top of a pyramid.

“Lucky guess” Sally and Dawn grumbled teasingly in unison and Briar gave them a cheeky grin while Cyrus just chuckled softly.

“Alright you three stay close” Cyrus instructed as he started heading towards the pyramid, Dawn, Briar and Sally nodded as they kept pace with him.

“You got it Dad” Sally chirped almost to cheerfully which just made Cyrus roll his eyes fondly.

When they reached the base of the pyramid the sky grew infinitely darker before lightning crashed in front of them, leaving behind an incredibly tall young man who towered over them. His skin looked almost gold-tinted while also having some shark-like appearances and his eyes glowed gold as lightning crackled around him.

“You shouldn’t be here” He growled dangerously as a bolt of lightning lashed out and hit the ground by Dawn’s feet which could have been seen as a threat if the brief flash of guilt on the young God’s face didn’t give it away as an accident.

“We don’t mean you any harm, my wife Elowen sent me to come meet you” Cyrus said calmly as he took a slight step forward which made Caspian tilt his head in surprise as the glow left his eyes.

“Lady Elowen sent you?” He questioned curiously and Cyrus smiled warmly as he nodded.

“She did, my names Cyrus and these are three of my children Sally, Dawn and Briart” He introduced warmly and Caspian made a curious noise in the back of his throat as he shrunk down to a more reasonable height so that he wasn’t towering over the four of them, he also called back the lightning to the best of his ability.

“Why did you come?” He asked curiously as he took a slight step back to avoid any of them being struck by stray bolts of lightning.

“Elowen sent us here to bring you home with us so that you could have a home and people who can help you with your powers” Cyrus explained gently which made Caspian stiffen up as he took another step back.

“I can’t, I have to stay here so I don’t hurt anyone” He stated seriously as he narrowed his eyes at Cyrus before his attention was caught by Sally stepping forward.

“You just need to learn control, we can help you with that” She said gently and Caspian tilted his head slightly before his eyes widened as he glanced between Dawn, Sally and Briar.

“You have Godly blood in you, all three of you” He mumbled in awe, the only God he had ever met was Lady Elowen and he had never met a mortal with Godly blood before as they were incredibly rare seeing as many Gods thought of mortals as beneath them and wouldn’t dare try and reproduce with them.

Dawn flinched and took a slight step back, Sally placed a comforting hand on her shoulder while Briar took a step forward and gave Caspian a gentle smile.

“Sally and I personally haven’t manifested any powers yet but Dawn has really good control of hers and can help you master yours” She promised and Caspian glanced at Dawn who took a deep breath to regain her composure before she stuck her hands out and allowed her purplish fire to lick around her hands which made Caspian gasp in awe.

A huge misconception of hybrids was that they would inherit the magical powers of the creature they were a hybrid of but that was completely false. A normal mortal body wouldn't be able to handle that kind of power, for instance just because a person was a creeper hybrid didn't mean that they could explode. However normal abilities were transferable that's why avians can fly and raccoon hybrids can see in the dark as those were natural and not magical.

Under normal circumstances, an ender dragon hybrid would just be able to fly but because of her Godly blood Dawn could do so much more and the same could be said for Sally and Briar if they ever manifested their abilities.

"Our abilities may be different but if you give me the chance I can help you master yours so you never accidentally hurt someone again" Dawn promised as her fire dispersed and she met Caspian's eyes.

"Okay, I'll go with you" Caspian said as he squared his shoulders in determination and was met by four warm smiles.

"Welcome to the family Caspian" Cyrus said warmly as he placed a hand on the young God's shoulder while being mindful of the lightning. Caspian smiled brightly as he glanced between the four of them, a family huh? That sounded really nice.

## Talks Of Powers

“How are they coming along?” Techno asked as he came to stand next to Cyrus who was leaning in the open doorframe of the backdoor.

“They’re doing rather well” Cyrus mused and Techno hummed as he glanced into the backyard where the group of four were sitting in meditation positions.

Dawn was sitting in the front with her hands resting on her knees with her palms facing up, her purple fire danced and twisted in a mesmerizing way along her palms. Caspian, Briar and Sally sat in the same position though Caspian had lightning dancing along his palms in a much more controlled fashion than when he first arrived.

“Caspian’s control has grown by leaps and bounds” Cyrus remarked and Techno hummed once again, this was very true it seemed like the only time Caspian lost control nowadays was when he got startled or was feeling very intense emotions.

“Dawn is proving to be an excellent teacher” He remarked and Cyrus frowned slightly as he glanced at the piglin hybrid.

“Does it ever concern you about just how advanced Dawn is? I mean Sally has been training as soon as she was old enough but Dawn? Her mastery of her powers at such a young age is like nothing I have ever seen before” He questioned worriedly and Techno frowned a little in agreement.

“It’s not just her powers that are advanced her fighting abilities are also far above what they should be at her age” He pointed out which made Cyrus’ frown deepen.

“It paints a grim picture of what her childhood was like” He mumbled softly and Techno nodded somberly in agreement. Dawn had been with them for quite a while now but she rarely went into detail about her past so they knew very little of her time living in The End but from what they could gather it wasn’t pleasant.

“All we can do now is give her the childhood she deserves” He finally said and Cyrus smiled ever so slightly as he nodded in agreement before he glanced in the direction of his four children.

“Sally and Briar still aren’t showing signs of manifesting any powers” He remarked and Techno grunted as he glanced at the kids, compared to Dawn’s fire and Caspian’s lightning Sally and Briar’s empty hands were glaringly obvious.

“We both know that Sally may never manifest any powers and neither may Briar” He explained softly and Cyrus scoffed.

“Considering who his father is the chances of Briar not getting any kind of powers are strikingly low” He pointed out and Techno nodded as he conceded to his point. They had

very quickly deduced who Briar's biological father was but when they brought it up to him, Briar hadn't cared.

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*"I spent a year and a half in that cell and if it wasn't for you I'd either still be there or I would be dead"* He stated seriously as he crossed his arms tensely.

*"If my birth father is as powerful of a man as you say he is then where was he when King Bernard took me away? Why didn't he save me? And why don't I remember anything about him?"* He questioned bitterly as he dug his nails into his arms.

*"You, Dad and Sally are my family, I don't need nor want him in my life"* He finally stated tiredly and Techno just nodded as he pulled his son into a hug which is when the tears finally started running down his face, accepting and then letting go of this part of his past was a very big step in the right direction when it comes to his recovery.

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"I guess he just needs more time" Techno said softly and Cyrus hummed a little in agreement.

"Do you think *he* will ever show his face?" He asked and a slight glare appeared on Techno's face.

"If he does I'll make him regret it and the same goes for that damn End God" He stated darkly and Cyrus nodded sharply in agreement before shocked gasps caught their attention and they glanced back at the kids only to see that Ezran, Theo and Vesper had dumped buckets of sand onto Sally, Dawn and Caspian with Briar being the only one spared.

"Stop being boring and play with us!" Ezran announced stubbornly with Vesper and Theo nodding in agreement which made the four older kids laugh loudly.

Techno and Cyrus smiled softly at the scene before Cyrus' eyes widened in a panic.

"Sally no! Don't you dare eat that sand!" He shouted as he raced across the yard which made everyone but Sally laugh who just pouted at the unfairness of it all.

## Starving Pups

Techno grinned as he ruffled one of his dog's ears as he handed out their food, Cyrus liked to say he had a problem with adopting so many dogs but he just pointed at their growing army of children and that usually shut him up.

He stood up to crack his back and glanced around the yard, Dawn was further away from him helping him feed the dogs while also giving them the occasional belly rub. He smiled softly as he watched his daughter spoil the dogs before his back stiffened slightly when he heard some of the dogs growling.

He marched off to find what was upsetting his dogs only for eyes to widen when he saw one of his dogs having a tug-of-war match with a young wolf hybrid over a piece of meat while a younger wolf hybrid paced anxiously nearby.

"What is going on here?" He questioned, more baffled than angry, but his sudden presence startled both hybrids which allowed his dog to get the upper hand and run off with his piece of meat.

"Hullo" He greeted to try and calm the duo down but this just made the older of the two growl and bare his fangs threateningly while also gesturing for his little brother to get behind him.

"Hey it's okay I'm not going to hurt you" Techno said calmly as he held his hands up in the universal sign for peace as he quickly took note of both of their appearances, their clothes were in near tatters, they weren't wearing any shoes, they looked like they hadn't bathed in quite a while and the oldest looked like he had gone without a meal for a very long time whereas the younger looked a bit more fed so the oldest was likely giving his younger brother most if not all of his food.

"We don't mean any harm, we'll just leave" The youngest announced anxiously as he tugged at his older brother's arm, whose withering glare had not left Techno.

"There's no need to do that, you both look like you could use a warm meal so why don't you come inside and I can make something for you" Techno offered gently but this just made the oldest growl harsher.

"Like we'd fall for such an obvious trap, your dog kept its food so just let us leave" He growled viciously and Techno twitched slightly, he was quite literally doing nothing to stop them but he could understand their concern turning their backs to him.

He wanted to help them but he wasn't sure how to do it, it was very clear that they didn't trust anyone but each other, they honestly reminded him of Dawn in a way but the difference was Dawn had trust in hybrids these two clearly did not have that.

"I finished feeding the rest of the dogs, can we head back to start lunch now? I promised Gabriel I'd help him and Zoe kick Sally's ass at Monopoly" Dawn remarked as she

approached them only to pause when she finally registered the growling and noticed the two wolf hybrids standing in front of her Papa.

“Ah, I see you’re busy” She quipped teasingly and Techno rolled his eyes fondly.

“You’re an ender dragon hybrid” The youngest muttered in awe as he shuffled a little closer, he was still hidden behind his brother but now he could get a better look at Dawn.

“I am” Dawn said proudly as she flared her wings out slightly to show them off better which made Techno smile warmly, Dawn had such an obvious soft spot for children.

“Wow” The youngest mumbled as he took a slight step forward only for his brother to immediately put his hand in front of him.

“Ezekiel stay behind me” He ordered seriously and Ezekiel quickly nodded as he shuffled back behind his brother while Dawn’s eyes softened in understanding.

“You don’t have to worry about anyone hurting you here, especially not this big teddy bear” She said comfortingly with a teasing tone near the end that made Techno give her an unimpressed look.

“Dawn stop ruining my reputation” He grunted which earned him an equally unimpressed look back.

“What reputation old man? Just the other day you cried over puppies being too cute while Briar braided flowers into your hair” She pointed out which made Ezekiel laugh while his brother smirked in amusement. Techno huffed and rolled his eyes fondly.

“You’re a menace Dawn” He stated which just made Dawn grin cheekily.

“I learned from the best” She quipped and Techno chuckled fondly in agreement.

“You people are ridiculous” Ezekiel’s older brother remarked as he loosened his stance slightly, though he was still standing protectively in front of his brother.

“You don’t know ridiculous until you watch an avian try to carry three children at once while flying only to immediately faceplant” Dawn remarked which made the duo laugh while Techno rolled his eyes fondly, Sally had been so confident she could carry Ezran, Theo and Vesper while flying alas all it resulted in was her getting a mouthful of dirt and a lot of laughter.

“I meant what I said about you being safe here and if you’d like you can come inside and have a meal with us, we have more than enough for the both of you, you’d think with 12 people we would always be running out but somehow we never do” Dawn offered fondly as she held out a welcoming hand.

Ezekiel glanced up at his brother who was staring at Dawn’s hand intensely, a moment passed before he reached forward and took the offered hand into his own but his grip was tight as he stared directly into Dawn’s eyes.

"I'll accept your generous offer but let it be known if anyone hurts my little brother there will be nothing left of your body but bones" He threatened and Dawn nodded in understanding.

"Of course but the same can be said for me if you hurt any of my family you'll be lucky if there are even bones left" She stated seriously as her eyes began to glow. The two of them remained at a standstill for a few moments before easy-going smirks appeared on both their faces as they let go of each other's hands.

"Welcome to our humble abode, I'm Dawn and this is one of my Papa Techno you'll meet the rest of the family inside" Dawn introduced warmly which earned her a smile in return.

"I'm Sebastian and this is my brother Ezekiel" Sebastian replied as he wrapped an arm around his brother's shoulder who smiled up at Dawn brightly.

"Well, now that introductions are out of the way let's head inside and get some food in you all" Techno announced as he turned to head back towards the house with the three children following behind him.

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"Do you think they're fitting in okay?" Cyrus asked as he sat down next to Techno who hummed softly as he placed his tea down, it's been a few days since Sebastian and Ezekiel had officially moved in and Ezran had already bestowed upon the boys a bracelet each, a gold one for Sebastian and a blue and grey one for Ezekiel, however, neither seemed all that willing to interact with anyone who wasn't Dawn.

Before Techno could respond a very loud boom came from outside and a quick glance out the living room window showed Ezran, Vesper, Theo and Ezekiel running away with shit-eating grins on their faces.

"I think they're going to fit in just fine" He finally said after a moment which made Cyrus huff in fond amusement.

## Money Doesn't Buy Love

Cyrus hummed a little to himself as he chopped up some carrots for lunch, Gabriel had been helping him but he got dragged off by Theo just a bit ago so that left him to finish lunch alone.

He turned around when he heard someone clear their throat and saw Sebastian standing behind him with a determined expression on his face.

"Here" He said as he shoved a sizeable amount of money into Cyrus' hands which made his eyes widen a little in shock.

"Wha- Sebastian what is this for?" He questioned stunned as he stared down at the money.

"It's for allowing Ezekiel and I to stay here" Sebastian stated and Cyrus glanced up at him with a confused expression on his face.

"Bud you don't need to pay me for letting you stay here" He said as went to hand the money back but Sebastian just stared at him with a confused expression on his face.

"But then how else am I supposed to earn our keep?" He questioned and Cyrus felt his heart twist a little bit.

"Sebastian you don't have to earn your keep you and Ezekiel are welcome to stay here for as long as you want to" He said softly as he placed the money back into Sebastian's hands who stared at it baffled.

"What?" He muttered to himself.

"Sebastian?" Cyrus prompted slightly making the brunette glance back up at him.

"Who told you you had to earn your keep?" He asked softly which made Sebastian's confused expression quickly disappear and be replaced with a guarded one.

"No one but that's just how things always are" He stated as he clutched the money a little tighter which just made Cyrus' heart twist even further.

"If you won't take the money then what can I do? Do you want me to do chores?" He questioned in frustration and Cyrus gave him a sad look.

"I don't want you to do anything Sebastian" He said softly but this just seemed to frustrate Sebastian even more.

"If you don't want anything then why are you letting us stay!" He snapped angrily as his tail puffed up slightly and Cyrus placed a gentle hand on his shoulder.

"Sebastian, this is your home now, even if you and Ezekial decide to leave one day you'll always have a family waiting for you here" He said softly and Sebastian stared at him in

confusion.

“But... I...” He trailed off in confusion and Cyrus just hummed as he pulled him into a hug.

“You never have to earn our love Sebastian” He mumbled softly and the young wolf hybrid stood there for a moment before cautiously returning the hug.

“You won’t change your mind?” He asked almost hopefully and Cyrus just tightened his hold on the boy.

“You’re my son now Sebastian, nothing will ever change that” He stated seriously which made Sebastian tremble slightly as he buried his face into Cyrus’ chest, tears streamed down his face as he allowed himself to be vulnerable for the first time in years. Cyrus just hummed soothingly as he held onto his son protectively, no one would ever hurt him or Ezekiel ever again.

## Calming The Voices

Techno groaned as he rubbed at his forehead in annoyance as his head pounded, lately, the voices had been persistently violent and it was driving him nuts.

*Blood for The Blood God!*

*Death!*

*Anarchy!*

*Anarchy!*

*Anarchy!*

*Blood!*

*E!*

*Blood for The Blood God!*

*Destroy Them All!*

*Death!*

*Slaughter Them!*

*Blood!*

*Death!*

*Burn It All!*

*E!*

*Anarchy!*

*Anarchy!*

*Anarchy!*

*Blood for The Blood God!*

“Papa, are you okay?” Ezran questioned worriedly as he poked his head into the room and Techno grunted as he glanced at him.

“I’m fine Ez, just a bit of a headache” He said dismissively which made Ezran frown as he glanced at Theo, Vesper and Ezekiel who were standing behind him. They all shared a look

before nodding in determination and scurrying into the room so that they could cuddle up next to their Papa.

Ezran and Theo flopped themselves down onto his lap, Vesper cuddled into his left side while Ezekiel cuddled into his right.

“Your voices are being mean again so we’ll help calm them” Theo chirped as he and the others cuddled close.

Techno blinked a little in surprise before a fond smile appeared on his face as he hugged them close.

*Children Pog!*

*Technosoft!*

*Awwww!*

*E!*

*Cute!*

*Children Pog!*

*Technosoft!*

*Technosoft!*

*Stan The Children!*

*Protect THe Children!*

*E!*

*Family Pog!*

*Cute!*

*Soft!*

*Adorable!*

*Technosoft!*

*Precious Baby Boys!*

*E!*

*Children Pog!*

*Family Pog!*

"Thank you, boys" Techno mumbled softly as he cuddled his sons closer who just grinned brightly and cuddled back.

## Little Birdie And His Protector

“I hate caves!” Sally whined as she hefted her pickaxe up onto her shoulder, Cyrus chuckled in amusement while Sebastian and Gabriel rolled their eyes in unison.

“Then why did you tag along?” Gabriel huffed and Sally opened her mouth only to immediately shut it and avoid eye contact.

“You’re trying to avoid training aren’t you” Sebastian accused which made Sally’s shoulders slump in defeat.

“Dawn is such a brutal taskmaster, I needed a break before I lost my mind!” She whined which made Gabriel and Sebastian snicker in amusement while Cyrus chuckled as he glanced at his children with a fond look in his eyes, however, by doing this he didn’t notice the tripwire until he stepped on it.

Cyrus shouted in shock as he suddenly found himself trapped in a net, his children shouting equally as loud in alarm.

“What the fuck” Gabriel cursed while Sebastian crouched down to get a look at the tripwire which allowed him to notice a few odd things about the path ahead of them.

“This whole path is littered with traps” He revealed and Gabriel cursed again while Sally pulled out some shears to try and cut the net only for all of them to stiffen up when they heard the familiar hissing of a creeper.

“Fan-fucking-tastic” Gabriel grumbled as he pulled his sword out alongside Sebastian and Sally, however, what rounded the corner was not a simple creeper but a tall creeper hybrid who was clutching an axe threateningly. He was wearing a mask that hid the lower half of his face but the glare he was shooting them was enough of a tell that he was angry.

“You’re not welcome here” He hissed angrily only for his anger to suddenly disappear as his eyes landed on Sally.

“You’re an avian” He muttered in shock which made Sally stiffen up slightly while she folded her wings against her back.

“What of it?” She questioned defensively and the shocked look in the creeper hybrid’s eyes vanished as they narrowed slightly.

“You need to come with me” He demanded as he pointed his axe at Sally only for Gabriel and Sebastian to immediately step in front of her protectively.

“Yeah, I don’t think so” Sebastian growled as he bared his fangs which earned him an angered hiss from the creeper hybrid, however, before he could do anything Cyrus suddenly slashed open the net with his sword and landed in front of his children with his wings spread wide to shield them while he pointed his sword at the creeper hybrid.

"I don't take kindly to people threatening my children" He growled only to suddenly blink in shock when the young man in front of him dropped his axe and got on his knees.

"I'm sorry but please I need your help" He begged as he slipped off his mask to give Cyrus a pleading look which made him nearly choke on his spit as he lowered his sword when he realized that despite the boy's tall stature he was just a kid likely the same age if not a year older than Sally.

"You're going to ask for our help after you just threatened us?" Gabriel questioned in disbelief which made the creeper hybrid flinch slightly.

"I never intended to harm any of you, just scare you off, but you two being avians changes things" He admitted cautiously which did not make the kids relax in the slightest while Cyrus crouched down to meet his eyes.

"Why does that change things?" He questioned, his heart twisting slightly when he saw the helpless expression in the boy's eyes.

"My little brother is an avian and his wings are in terrible condition, his feathers are all twisted up and it's hurting him but I don't know how to help him. Every time I've tried I've just made it worse and I don't know what to do, he's my baby brother and I promised to keep him safe b-but I can't even do that" He explained as tears appeared in the corner of his eyes that he was quick to blink away and Cyrus felt his heartbreak, an older sibling just trying to protect their little brother, just like Dawn and Sebastian.

There was some shuffling from behind him before Sally crouched down next to him with a soft expression on her face.

"Take us to him?" She requested softly and the boy's shoulders sagged in relief.

"Thank you" He mumbled in relief as he stood up while reaching for his axe only for Gabriel to quickly scoop it up.

"I think I'll hold onto this just in case" He remarked and the creeper hybrid stared at him for a moment before he nodded in acceptance.

"Follow me" He instructed as he led them further into the cave while pointing out where each of the traps were so none of them set them off.

Cyrus couldn't help but let out an impressed hum as he took in how well-crafted the traps were.

"You're quite the redstone engineer" He remarked which made a slight blush appear on the boy's cheeks.

"It's a passion of mine, um I'm Arven by the way" He mumbled shyly and Cyrus smiled softly, without his mask and axe Arven was just an awkward teen.

"I'm Cyrus and these are my children Sally, Gabriel and Sebastian" He introduced and Arven smiled at him as they came to an oddly flat section of the cave wall, a simple push of a button

revealed it to be a door as the stone disappeared and revealed a small room with a messily constructed nest in the centre of it.

“Arv I can’t sleep it all hurts too much” A soft voice whined as a raven-haired avian poked his head out of the nest only to stiffen up in fear when he noticed all of the people, his eyes zeroed in on Gabriel who was still holding Arven’s axe and an angered expression appeared on his face.

“Leave my brother alone!” He cried out as he pounced out of the nest and went to attack Gabriel only for Arven to catch him.

“Julian it’s okay there not going to hurt us they are here to help” Arven said soothingly which made Julian stop struggling in his hold, this also allowed Cyrus to get a look at his wings and he almost wanted to cry when he saw how twisted up his poor feathers were.

“He has your axe” Julian huffed petulantly as he glared at Gabriel who simply raised an eyebrow.

“Was just being cautious” He said simply and Julian huffed before he turned to look at the others and his eyes widened when he saw Cyrus and Sally.

“You’re like me” He mumbled in awe and Sally gave him a soft smile.

“Your brother told us your wings were hurting so we came to help” She said softly which made a relieved expression appear on the younger avian’s face as tears appeared in the corner of his eyes.

“Please” He practically begged which made Cyrus’ heartbreak a little bit, he sat down on the ground and gestured for Arven to place Julian in front of him so that he could get to work on the wings. Once he was sitting in front of him Sally let out a sad chirp as she took in the damage.

“This will take a while” She mumbled softly to Arven who nodded in understanding as he sat down as well and gave Julian a soft smile.

“You’ll feel better soon Oli” he mumbled softly and Julian nodded as his shoulders sagged in relief as Cyrus’ skilled fingers worked through his feathers.

“You look exhausted” Sebastian remarked as he sat down next to Arven who simply hummed.

“I haven’t slept in a while, I have to keep him safe” He mumbled as his eyes remained locked on Cyrus’ actions so that could mimic them once they left.

“You should get some rest, if you keep running yourself ragged you’ll be too drained to be of any help to your brother” Sebastian pointed out and Arven went to argue but the look of understanding in Sebastian’s eyes made him hesitate.

“I have to stay up so I can learn how to take care of Oliver’s wings” He finally said as he focused back on Cyrus but Sally just shook her head and gently eased him into resting his

head on her shoulder.

“Just get some rest” She mumbled as she ran her fingers through Arven’s hair who tried to fight off his sleepiness but eventually succumbed and fell asleep.

“He’s a lot like Dawn” Cyrus mused as he glanced over at the kids as his fingers continued to work through Julian’s feather, said boy having also fallen asleep.

Sally hummed in agreement and Gabriel snorted in amusement as he glanced between his dad and sister.

“We’re going to run out of room in the house at the rate you and Papa adopt people” He pointed out in amusement which made them all laugh in agreement.

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“I honestly don’t know how this house is still standing” Techno remarked as he watched Julian rush off with Ezran, Theo, Vesper and Ezekiel with mischievous expressions on their faces while Arven and Caspian rushed off in the opposite direction with almost manic levels of eagerness on their faces.

“Magic” Cyrus pointed out simply as he took a sip of his tea which made Techno snort in amusement/agreement.

## Chaotic Building

“Why did I let you drag me into this?” Dawn muttered questioningly as she shifted the planks of wood in her arms into a more comfortable position. Caspian and Arven shared a look before glancing back at her.

“Because you love us?” Caspian suggested teasingly which made Dawn huff in amusement.

“That excuse can only get you so far Caspian Everdeen” She huffed fondly which just earned him a cheeky grin from the god.

“Sure it will” He remarked cheerfully to which Dawn shook her head fondly while Arven chuckled in amusement, he had only been a part of this family for a few weeks now and he honestly didn’t know what he would do without them.

“Wow, it looks like you guys are almost done” Dawn muttered impressed as they approached the partially constructed treehouse.

“Yup! We just need your help with the finer details at the top where we can’t reach” Arven said cheerfully and Dawn turned to look at Caspian with a raised eyebrow.

“You can grow to be twenty feet tall” She pointed out and Caspian smiled a little in agreement.

“That’s true and that is how we got most of it done, however, my hands in that form are a little too big for the finer details” He explained and Dawn made a soft noise of understanding before tilting her head thoughtfully.

“Then why didn’t you ask Sally? You know building isn’t exactly my expertise” She questioned which earned her an amused/exasperated huff from Caspian.

“The last time I asked Sally to help me with something she tried to turn it into a cult” He explained which made Dawn and Arven laugh.

“Yeah, that sounds like Sals” Dawn muttered fondly as she placed down the planks of wood she was carrying before turning to face her brothers.

“Alright tell me what I’ve got to do” She requested which made bright grins appear on Arven and Caspian’s faces as they handed her the tools she needed before instructing her on what to do.

“The younger kids are going to adore this when it’s finished” Caspian said happily as he watched Dawn work.

“Especially Ezran, that little gremlin is going to be all over this thing” Dawn remarked fondly which made Caspian laugh fondly in agreement while Arven glanced down at the green and black bracelet that the little raccoon hybrid had presented him with a warm smile on his face,

Oliver had received a blue and yellow bracelet which is when they both knew that they had found a family.

“That plank is crooked Dawn you’ve got to straighten it out before you finish hammering it in” Caspian pointed out which made Dawn furrow her eyebrows in confusion as she flew back a bit.

“It looks straight to me” She grumbled a little to herself as she stared intently at the plank.

“Just fix it please” Caspian requested and Dawn rolled her eyes as she fixed the crooked plank.

“Now it’s crooked on the other side” Arven said teasingly which made Caspian laugh while Dawn turned to give him a deadpanned look.

“Do not make me come down there Arven Everdeen because you won’t like it if I do” She warned jokingly making Caspian laugh even harder while Arven’s heart warmed at the inclusion of his new last name.

“Come on Dawn you said it yourself, building is not your expertise so let us professionals tell you what to do” Caspian said after catching his breath from laughing only to squeak and jump out of the way when Dawn threw a tennis ball at him.

“Where did you get a tennis ball?” He questioned baffled and Dawn gave him a cheeky little grin.

“Magic” She said teasingly as she wiggled her fingers which made Caspian huff childishly while Arven laughed fondly.

“You’re a menace Dawn” Caspian huffed with a fond eye roll which just made Dawn’s grin grow.

“Tell me something I don’t know” She said teasingly which just made Caspian grumble some more while Arven watched on fondly, he really didn’t know what he would do without this family.

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“This is so fucking cool!” Ezran shrieked as he scurried around the treehouse alongside Theo, Vesper, Ezekiel and Julian who were equally excited while Dawn, Arven, and Caspian laughed fondly.

# Airborn

Julian shifted anxiously as he followed behind Da-Cyrus, Sally and Dawn. Today was the day that they were going to start teaching him how to fly and he was very nervous. He could still vividly remember his mother's scathing words.

*“You're a disgrace!”*

*“Your wings are far too small!”*

*“You'll never fly!”*

*“I wish you were never born!”*

“Hey Juls you alright?” Dawn asked worriedly as she glanced down at the young avian who was biting at his lip anxiously before he shook his head and plastered on a large fake smile.

“Yup! Totally fine! Haha, I can't wait to learn how to fly!” He said in a falsely cheerful tone of voice that Dawn was immediately able to see right through.

“Hey it's alright to be a little nervous, there's nothing wrong with that. But trust me once we get you up in the air you will absolutely adore it” She said reassuringly and Julian nodded a little bit as he bit at his lip again before glancing at Dawn's wings.

“Did Cyrus teach you how to fly?” He asked curiously and a slight grimace appeared on Dawn's face as she shook her head.

“No my... mentor taught me before I became a part of the family” She explained and Julian frowned a little bit, he had a feeling there was more to that story but decided not to say anything for now.

“Alright, here we are!” Cyrus announced as they reached the top of the hill and Julian let out a tiny breath of relief over the fact that they weren't doing it next to a cliff. If Arven hadn't caught him that day... he quickly shook his head to rid himself of that thought.

“So... how are we doing this?” He asked anxiously and Cyrus gave him a comforting smile but before he could say anything Sally cut him off.

“I'm gonna fly you up and then release you so that you can glide down the hill” She said eagerly and Julian paled at this only for Dawn to immediately smack Sally on the back of the head.

“You're going to give him a heart attack” She reprimanded making Sally pout slightly.

“Don't worry Julian we're not going to do that” Cyrus said comfortingly as he placed a reassuring hand on the ravenettes shoulder to which he let out a sigh of relief.

"Then... what are we doing?" He asked, Cyrus squeezed his shoulder comfortingly before letting go and spreading his wings out. They were absolutely massive compared to his own, the kind of wings his mother would have fawned over.

"We're going to focus on some stretches, get your wings used to more intense movement before doing some hovering and then if you're comfortable some light gliding" Cyrus explained while giving Sally a pointed look at the last bit to which the girl just huffed and crossed her arms dramatically making Julian laugh a bit.

"Okay, I can do that" He said as he focused back on Cyrus who smiled warmly at him.

"Alright just copy me, okay?" He requested and Julian nodded as he spread his wings out and mirrored each of Cyrus' movements. It felt strange but not in a bad way, almost like he could feel the wind coursing through each feather. Though as the stretches continued he noticed that while Sally was mimicking Cyrus' moves Dawn was doing something slightly different.

"Why aren't you following the stretches, Dawn?" He questioned and Dawn chuckled fondly as she folded her wings against her back quickly being followed by everyone else.

"My wings aren't feathered so I have to move them a bit differently" She explained and Julian blushed a little in embarrassment at how obvious the answer was.

"Don't be embarrassed Juls I asked the very same thing" Sally said reassuringly and while Julian nodded in understanding his blush was still rather prominent.

"Do you think you're ready for some hovering, Julian?" Cyrus asked as he spread his wings back out and Julian bit his lip anxiously for a moment before nodding.

"Yeah, let's do this" He said in false bravado and the other three gave him soft smiles.

"Alright, just flap your wings strongly but not too aggressively so that you don't shoot off of the ground, okay?" Cyrus explained as he flapped his wings so that he was hovering a bit off the ground, with Sally and Dawn following suit.

Julian took in a couple of deep breaths before he began flapping his wings with all of his strength but his feet remained firmly on the ground no matter how hard he tried.

"I can't do it! My wings are too small! I'm just worthless!" He shouted in frustration as he gripped at his hair while a few tears slipped out.

"Hey, hey don't say that Juls" Sally reprimanded softly as she landed in front of him and gently pried his fingers out of his hair.

"You are not worthless and your wings are not too small, you just need a bit of practice okay? There's nothing wrong with that" Sally said soothingly but Julian just sniffled sadly.

"Here take my hands and repeat after me, okay?" Sally suggested as she held out her hands and Julian gave her a weird look before complying.

"I am an avian" Sally stated strongly.

“I... am an avian” Julian repeated, not understanding what this was going to achieve.

“I was born to fly” Sally said as she began flapping her wings.

“I was... born to fly” Julian repeated as he began flapping his own wings without even realizing.

“The sky is my domain” Sally said with a smile appearing on her face as she saw Julian flapping his wings.

“The sky is my domain” Julian repeated with a bit more confidence in his tone.

“No one will ever keep me grounded” Sally said strongly.

“No one will ever keep me grounded” Julian repeated with a newfound spark of confidence appearing in his eyes.

“I was born to fly!” Sally practically shouted in excitement.

“I was born to fly!” Julian shouted confidently with a large grin on his face that Sally eagerly matched.

“Now that wasn’t so hard now was it?” She said cheekily and Julian blinked in confusion before glancing down only to gasp when he saw that they were hovering above the ground. Of course, as soon as he noticed this he stopped flapping his wings and landed back on the ground but that didn’t matter, he had done it!

“I-I was flying! I was actually doing!” He shouted in shocked excitement as he practically bounced in place.

“Way to go Julian!” Dawn said proudly and Julian grinned brightly before throwing himself at Sally and pulling her into a tight hug.

“Thank you so much” He mumbled as a few tears slipped down his face and Sally smiled warmly as she returned the hug.

“Anytime Juls, anytime” She said warmly as she glanced up and saw the proud look in her father’s eyes.

# You Are Not My Father

Ezran yawned as he sleepily made his way towards the front door where someone was very persistently knocking, it was way too early in the Gods damn morning for this but the rest of his family were way too lazy so now he has waste precious time that could be used for sleeping to answer the stupid door.

“If Dad forgot his keys again and decided to knock instead of climbing through the window like a normal person I’m gonna kick his shins” He grumbled to himself as he thought of the many times that his Dad had gone on a trip and forgotten his keys, though usually, it was because Serena had stolen them.

“What do you want?” He questioned grumpily as he swung the door open only for the hair on the back of his neck to immediately stand on end as he took in the man standing before him.

His aura was nearly suffocating and it screamed danger, he also looked a lot like Briar, especially the glowing white eyes but wheres Briar’s exuded warmth and protection this man's eyes seemed to be set in a permanent glare.

“About time someone answered, it seems the famed Angel of Death can’t be bothered to hire proper servants” The man snuffed in disdain which made Ezran’s tail bristle angrily.

“I’m no servant!” He hissed angrily to which the man just waved his hand dismissively.

“Unimportant, I’m looking for someone so do you mind stepping aside so that I may fetch them?” The man requested though to Ezran it sounded more like a demand and Ezran really didn’t like being told what to do, especially from someone so dangerous.

“Stranger danger!” He shouted as loudly as he could while simultaneously slamming the door in the man's face before turning tail and sprinting back towards the bedrooms to find someone who was better equipped to deal with the man.

However, he was barely to the edge of the living room before the front door was blasted off of its hinges and he was suddenly yanked up into the air by an invisible force.

“You impudent little vermin!” The man hissed furiously as he stalked into the room while twisting his hand slightly.

“Gah!” Ezran exclaimed fearfully as he grabbed at his throat when an invisible force began strangling him.

“Now tell me where Br-” The man began to say only to shout in shock when a blast of fire hit him square in the chest.

Ezran greedily sucked in as much air as he could while completely ignoring how sore he felt from hitting the ground. He glanced up and saw Dawn standing protectively in front of him with her wings flared and fire blazing angrily in her hands.

“Go get Papa and make as much noise as you can to wake up the others” Dawn ordered and Ezran quickly scampered off while Dawn glared down Herobrine who was brushing off his scorched suit with an annoyed look on his face.

“I didn’t realize Ambroz let his little playthings leave the End” He sneered in disgust which made Dawn bare her teeth angrily.

“Do not speak his name in front of me!” She growled to which Herobrine just raised a slightly condescending eyebrow.

“Oh, the little dragon has a backbone? I suppose that’s the God’s blood in you working its magic, shame I’ll have to snuff it out you could have been useful” He remarked dismissively before he suddenly pounced at Dawn who tried to blast him with fire but the Nether God was far too fast and easily pinned her to the ground.

“Blast me all you want little dragon but your flames won’t do a thing against me” He sneered almost sadistically as he gripped Dawn’s wrist tightly making the blonde scream in agony as it began withering.

“Now tell me, where is B-” He began to say only to once again be cut off, this time he was blasted back by a bolt of lightning that actually made his muscles spasm in pain.

“Leave my sister alone!” Caspian growled as he stood protectively over Dawn’s downed form.

“Little Godling this fight has nothing to do with you, leave now or face the consequences” Herobrine hissed angrily as he stood up only to stiffen ever so slightly when a blade was pressed against his throat and he met the furious eyes of Technoblade.

“You made a mistake coming here” He growled dangerously to which Herobrine just scoffed as he reached up to grip the sword making it wither and break.

“Technoblade! Just the pig I wanted to see, you’ve taken something from me and I’d like to have it returned” He sneered to which Techno just raised an unimpressed eyebrow while Caspian came to stand at his side.

“I’ve taken nothing from you, now leave my home before I make you regret it” He demanded which only further angered Herobrine.

“You have my son, I demand you return him to me!” He snapped furiously as he went to get into Techno’s face only for a dagger flying past his own face to catch his attention.

“I am not your son!” Briar hissed venomously as she stalked forward with another dagger clutched tightly in her hand.

Herobrine’s eyes widened ever so slightly as he took in his son’s appearance, how... how many mortal years had passed? His little thorn looked so much older than he thought he would. He quickly shook that thought away and instead smiled widely at his boy.

“Briar! There you are, about time you stopped hiding” He said brightly as he went to take a step forward only for Briar to throw the other dagger at him which just barely missed his ear.

“You need to leave” Briar growled and Herobrine sniffed a little in disdain as he cast a glance around the room.

“Obviously, now come along Briar it’s time we go home” He ordered as he turned on his heel and began making his way towards the blasted open door.

“No” Briar stated coldly making Herobrine stiffen up slightly as he slowly turned back around to face his son.

“What?” He questioned in a low tone of voice to which Briar bared her teeth slightly.

“This is my home now and you need to leave it” She stated coldly and Herobrine stared at him in shock for a moment before his eyes narrowed angrily.

“Briar, I am your father and you will come with me at once!” He demanded harshly but all Briar did was bark out a harsh-sounding laugh while Techno and Caspian backed away slightly to take care of Dawn.

“Technoblade is my father, Cyrus Everdeen is my father, you are not nor will you ever be my father!” She snapped harshly, shocking and angering Herobrine.

“Briar!” He snapped in a slightly scandalized tone but Briar just shook her head furiously and marched forward as anger bled into every one of her movements.

“If you are my father then where were you when assassins chased me out of the castle as I feared for my life? Where were you when I was abducted by a mad king and tortured into becoming his weapon for two years? Where have you been for the last six years of my life?! Huh? Well? Where were you?!?” She questioned/shouted furiously to which all Herobrine could do was stare at her in shocked silence.

“At seven years old I would have preferred death over becoming a weapon because those were my only choices because you couldn’t be bothered to keep me safe but he did!” She continued as she got right up into Herobrine’s face while pointing at her Papa.

“He is the man who saved my life, he is the man who showed me love and gave me a family - brothers, sisters, a mother and another father far better than you ever were, so that is why they are the men I will call father and you are the man I will loath for the rest of my life” She hissed in a dangerously calm tone of voice compared to the shouting from just moments prior and Herobrine had never felt so shell shocked in all of his many years.

“Now I suggest you leave before we find out if a God can bleed” She hissed venomously before turning on her heel and walking away completely dismissing the still-stunned God as if he was no more than a pest that she no longer wished to deal with.

Herobrine watched as his son was pulled into a hug by Technoblade who exuded such love that it made his stomach twist in an unfamiliar way. He watched only for a moment before

turning on his heel and disappearing in a burst of blue flames, far too many emotions warring in his mind.

This wasn't over that was for sure.

## Dad And Dad Are Fighting

“I was gone for three days and in that time one of the most powerful Gods in existence broke in and severely injured Dawn, traumatized Ezran and left Briar completely non-verbal and you didn’t think to send me a fucking letter!” Cyrus shouted angrily as he paced back and forth in the living room while Techno watched on with a grimace on his face.

“I had everything under control” He stated gruffly and Cyrus whipped around to give him an incredulous look.

“Under control? What exactly do you have under control Technoblade? Because from where I’m standing it was our children that kept everyone safe not you!” He snapped angrily to which Techno grit his teeth in frustration.

“Briar had it handled I-” He tried to reason but Cyrus slapped him across the face.

“Briar is thirteen years old she shouldn’t have had to handle anything, same for Dawn, Caspian and Ezran. I know you have a warped perception on what kids can do because of your own childhood but that doesn’t excuse you standing by and letting our kids risk their lives!” He screamed furiously and Techno’s eyes briefly widened in hurt before they narrowed angrily.

“You think I wanted to let Briar face that man? I felt fucking powerless for the first time in my life Cyrus! If I stepped in it would have snapped Herobrine out of his stunned state, which for the record is the only reason he left in the first place, he could have easily teleported away with Briar and we would have no way of finding him or he could have burned the house down and killed everyone! I couldn’t do anything so I focused on making sure Dawn wouldn’t lose an arm but I guess that doesn’t matter to you!” He shouted back furiously and Cyrus took a couple of steps back in shock not knowing what to say.

“Are you two done?” Lucian snapped as he stepped into the room with his wings flared slightly while holding a crying Serena.

“Lucian! How’s-” Cyrus began to say but was cut off by Lucian raising a hand.

“Dawn is going to make a full recovery with only minor scarring, Sally and Arven have managed to get Ezran to stop hiding under his bed, and Caspian has managed to get Briar talking again” He listed off and Techno and Cyrus slumped a little in relief.

“I understand that you two are upset and angry but you can’t be having these kinds of fights where the kids can hear you or you’re going to scare them” Lucian continued as he glanced pointedly at Serena who was still crying and guilty immediately crashed down on Techno and Cyrus’ shoulders.

“Now you two are going to resolve your issues peacefully while I go take care of the children and if I hear you raise your voices one more time you are going to regret it” He stated coldly

before turning on his heel and heading back towards the bedrooms, leaving Techno and Cyrus standing there in awkward silence.

“I’m... sorry for snapping and accusing you of not caring when I didn’t know the full story” Cyrus mumbled softly and a sad look entered Techno’s eyes.

“I’m sorry I didn’t inform you of what happened immediately, you didn’t deserve to have to walk in on this mess unprepared” He mumbled back equally as soft and Cyrus gave him a slight smile.

“Are we good?” He asked hopefully and Techno huffed as he pulled the ravenette into a hug.

“We’re good” He muttered fondly which made Cyrus’ smile widen as he returned the hug.

## Self Worth

Dawn sighed as she slumped further into her bed, Uncle Lucian had demanded she stay on bed rest till she was fully healed and she was absolutely bored out of her mind. She shifted a bit and glanced down at her arm, the withering effect had been taken care of but she would always have a crack-like scar on her arm now.

She clenched her fist a bit before wincing at the pain that caused, she was supposed to be able to protect her family but she had been absolutely powerless against Herobrine and it made her heartburn in shame and frustration.

She glanced towards the door when she heard it crack open and saw Sally shuffle in with a small smile on her face.

“Hey D, you up for some company?” She asked softly and Dawn’s shoulders slumped a little in relief.

“Yes please” She mumbled and Sally’s smile widened ever so slightly as she came to sit on the chair that Uncle Lucian had left by her bed.

“How are you feeling?” She asked as her eyes wracked over Dawn’s frame who let out a tired sigh.

“Bored... and frustrated” She muttered bitterly as she glared down at her hand to which Sally pinched her eyebrows in confusion.

“Why are you frustrated? You stood up to a God and left with only minimal scarring, you protected Ezran and gave the others a chance to respond. If it wasn’t for you and your habit of getting up early who knows what Herobrine could have done to Ezran while the rest of us slept” Sally pointed out and Dawn gritted her teeth angrily.

“But I should have been able to do more, I’m just too weak!” She snapped angrily and Sally frowned as she placed a gentle hand on her shoulder.

“Dawn you are not weak, we are still kids and Herobrine is one the most powerful Gods in existence but despite that, you still stood up to him and defended our family. You are one of the strongest people I know and I just wish you could see that” She said seriously in a soft tone of voice that made Dawn deflate slightly.

“I just...” She trailed off and Sally reached to gently cup her face so that she would look at her.

“I may not understand why you feel the need to always be strong but please listen to your sister on this one when I tell you that you are not weak” She stated seriously as she gently wiped a tear away that slipped down Dawn’s face.

“Okay” She mumbled wetly and Sally smiled warmly at her before shuffling into the bed so that she could pull her sister into a hug while being mindful of her injury and both of their wings.

“Hey, Sals?” Dawn mumbled after a moment of silence to which Sally hummed in acknowledgement.

“I want to tell you about my fa- about Ambroz and what growing up in the End was like” Dawn mumbled softly and Sally tightened her grip ever so slightly.

“Tell me” She mumbled encouragingly and Dawn took a deep breath before delving into the hell that was her early childhood.

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Cyrus raised a curious eyebrow as he made his way towards Dawn’s room with her dinner when he noticed Gabriel, Zoe and Sebastian peaking into the room while giggling with each other.

“What are you three doing?” He questioned and the three turned to smile at him.

“Look at how cute they are” Zoe said through her giggling as she pointed into the room and Cyrus’ heart melted as he glanced into the room and saw Sally and Dawn cuddled up together as they slept.

Though he also noticed the dry tear tracks on both of their faces and the way that even in her sleep Sally was holding Dawn protectively in her arms.

“Alright, you three let’s let them sleep” He said as he shooed them off and while they pouted a bit they did scurry off. He stared after them for a moment before entering the room and placing the plate on the bedside table.

“Sleep well” He mumbled softly as he kissed both of their foreheads before leaving the room while the two cuddled closer with slight smiles on their faces.

## What Ifs

“Here’s your tea” Caspian said softly as he handed Briar a cup of tea who hummed softly as he accepted the cup.

“Thank you” He mumbled softly as he stared down at his tea tiredly, ever since he confronted Herobrine and the terror of what he had done faded he had just felt absolutely drained.

“Do you want to talk more about what happened or do you want a distraction?” Caspian asked and Briar’s face pinched slightly as he stared down into his tea thoughtfully.

“My memories are coming back” He finally said and Caspian’s eyes widened in surprise.

“Wait, really?” He asked stunned and he nodded as he glanced away from his tea to look at him.

“Just bits and pieces but it’s something” He mused and a bright grin appeared on Caspian’s face.

“That’s great news!” He said eagerly but Briar’s grip tightened on his cup as he shook his head.

“No it’s not” He said sternly to which Caspian blinked in confusion.

“Why not?” He questioned baffled and Briar sighed tiredly as he placed his tea on his bedside table before turning to face his brother.

“Did you know that Herobrine loved his wife more than anything in the world despite her mortality and even devoted an entire garden of wither roses in her honour simply because they were her favourite? Did you know that he has a fondness for dogs and can’t resist giving them belly rubs and treats? Did you know that he can sing amazing lullabies?” He asked harshly and Caspian’s eyes widened a little in shock.

“It was only a few days ago that I cursed this man out for not being my father and now I’m practically cursed with all of the memories of him being just that” Briar seethed angrily as he turned to glare down at his lap.

“I hate him... I want to always hate him but now I’m conflicted with what-ifs. What if I hadn’t been chased away? Would I have continued to idolize him as I had? Or would I have seen this ugly side of him and fled of my own accords? Or would I have become just like him?” He muttered to himself questioningly/bitterly and Caspian frowned as he reached over to take Briar’s hands into his own.

“Those what-ifs are just what-ifs, sure you can imagine all those potential scenarios but it doesn’t change the fact that you have a family who loves you no matter what okay?” He said reassuringly and Briar’s shoulders slumped a bit as he nodded in agreement.

“I just...” He trailed off and Caspian gave him an understanding smile.

“It's okay to wonder, there's nothing wrong with that, sometimes I wonder if I had been born with a connection to the Godly Plain what it would have been like to be raised there but that doesn't change the fact that I love this family and would never give it up” He said reassuringly and Briar nodded in agreement as he smiled warmly.

“You're right, Herobrine could have been my father in another life but I don't need him in this one. I have Dad and Papa and I couldn't ask for anyone better” He said warmly and Caspian grinned widely as he nodded in agreement.

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Techno placed a hand over his heart as it practically melted, these kids would be the death of him with all of the sentimentality.

“Papa?” Ezran asked softly as he approached him to which Techno raised a curious eyebrow.

“Yes, Ez?” He asked and Ezran took in a deep calming breath before blurting out his request.

## To Defend

“I want you to teach me how to fight and not sparring like you do with Vesper, I want to know how to kill” Ezran requested strongly and Techno’s eyes went wide in shock/horror.

“Ezran-” He began to say but Ezran’s glare hardened as he picked up on the pacifying down in his Papa’s voice.

“And don’t tell me I’m too young when the others have killed before!” He snapped which made Techno wince, he had hoped that Ezran and the other younger kids wouldn’t ever learn that some of their older siblings had killed before.

“Ezran that’s different” He tried to reason but the stubborn raccoon just puffed his tail up angrily.

“How is it different? Gabriel, Zoe, Briar, Sebastian and Dawn have all killed so tell me why is it okay for them but not me?!” He questioned angrily and Techno narrowed his eyes slightly as he crouched down to match Ezran’s height.

“Ezran the difference is that they had no choice, you have a choice. You have family who will protect you no matter what, they didn’t always have that so they had to do what it took to survive. Killing is never easy Ezran and I do not wish that burden upon you” He said seriously which made Ezran deflated slightly.

“I just don’t want to be that weak again” He mumbled softly as a few tears appeared in the corner of his eyes while his hand reached up to scratch at his neck and Techno felt his heartbreak a tiny bit.

“I won’t teach you how to kill, but I will teach you how to defend yourself. How you use those skills will be up to you but you must promise me something Ezran” He said seriously and Ezran stared up at him with wide eyes.

“Never give in to the blood lust because once you do you’ll never be the same again” Techno stated seriously and a worried expression appeared on Ezran’s face before it was replaced by one of determination as he nodded.

“I promise” He said strongly and a small smile appeared on Techno’s face as he stood up.

“Alright then, we begin first thing in the morning” He remarked and Ezran nodded before wincing slightly.

“First thing in the morning?” He asked weakly and a near shark-like grin appeared on Techno’s face as he nodded.

“Yup, if you want to learn how to fight you’ll be doing it on my schedule” He replied with a bit too much cheer in his tone which made Ezran grimace slightly, what exactly had he gotten himself into?



# Broken Flames

## Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for [notes](#)

“I bet riding a ghast would be cool” Ezran remarked as he trudged alongside Dawn who snorted in amusement as she glanced away from the ghast that was floating by having not seen them.

“You think so?” She asked and Ezran nodded strongly.

"It's so big riding on one would practically make you the ruler of the Nether" He explained to which Dawn made a soft sound of understanding.

“Come on you two the Bastion is just up ahead” Techno called out and the two blondes quickly scurried closer.

Now some might say it is foolish to enter The Nether after only a month had passed since angering the God of The Nether, something Cyrus had been quick to point out. But they needed resources and it was supposed to be just a quick trip, a trip he had planned on only bringing Dawn on but Ezran had begged and that boy had some damn good puppy dog eyes. However, while trading with some piglins he had heard some rather concerning rumours about this particular Bastion that made him decide to investigate.

“Do you really think the rumours about this place are true?” Dawn asked softly as the Bastion came into their line of sight.

"I don't know, I've never heard of brutes keeping slaves let alone hybrids but I suppose if humans can do it any species can" Techno mused and Dawn grimaced a little in agreement while Ezran's face paled.

“Look!” He shouted and Techno and Dawn immediately whipped around only for their hearts to freeze. It was a group of piglin brutes and they had two young blaze hybrids chained up and being dragged towards the Bastion, one was unconscious and thrown over one of their shoulders while the older-looking one was thrashing violently and had a muzzle on that was keeping the flames he was spitting from reaching any of the brutes.

Techno's axe was in his hand before he could even blink as he rushed forward with Dawn at his side and Ezran trailing slightly behind. The brutes didn't even get the chance to respond before their leader's head was cut clean off of his body.

“**ጋ** **ፋ** **ቁ** **ቃ** **ቁ** **ፋ** **ፋ**” The brute that was holding the younger blaze hybrid growled as he tossed the child.

onto the ground so that he could draw his sword, the other brutes snapped out of their shock and followed suit. The pained whimper the still unconscious boy made when he hit the ground caused the voices to scream for blood which Techno was happy to supply as he pounced at the brutes.

While Techno began the slaughter, Dawn rushed over to the muzzled blaze hybrid and Ezran rushed over to the unconscious one.

“Hey it’s all going to be okay, let me help you get out of those chains” Dawn said soothingly but the other boy just hissed and scrambled away only to wince when he put pressure on his right leg.

“I’m not going to hurt you I just want to help” She said reassuringly as she held her hands up in a placating manner, the boy snarled before his attention was diverted by something else which made his eyes widen slightly in awe. Dawn glanced behind herself and saw that the guy was watching Techno slaughter the brutes with little difficulty.

“He’s pretty awesome, huh?” She remarked as she glanced back at the boy who glanced at her briefly before returning his attention to the fight as he nodded.

“We just want to help you, will you let me take the chains and muzzle off?” She asked softly which made the boy fully focus on her, he hesitated for a moment before nodding. Dawn gave him a comforting smile as she pulled out her pickaxe so that she could break the shackles and muzzle while being very careful not to hit the boy.

“I’m Dawn by the way, what’s your name?” She asked as she pulled the muzzle off not even being bothered by the incredible heat coming off it, being a dragon had its perks sometimes. The boy rubbed at his wrists for a moment as he stared at her thoughtfully.

“Soren” He finally mumbled and Dawn gave him a warm smile but before she could say anything Ezran shouted in alarm. She whipped around so fast she almost gave herself whiplash and anger immediately welled up inside of herself as she saw that a brute had split off from the rest and had his sword clashed with Ezran’s whose arms were shaking as he stood protectively over the semi-conscious younger blaze hybrid.

She hissed angrily as her sword appeared in her hand with purple flames surging around it that earned her a shocked gasp from Soren but she didn’t have time to acknowledge it as she rushed forward and plunged her sword into the brute’s chest.

“σωΦ Ηολν ΣΦΛΦΦ οσσ ήη ΛιΦΦΛω ΤαοΦΕω!” She hissed venomously as she twisted her sword before pulling it out, the brute made a gurgling sound before falling over dead.

“Ψκ-ΦΛ Δ-ω Ηοπ οοΦΗ?” She immediately asked as she sheathed her sword while her eyes swept over Ezran looking for injuries while the younger boy cocked his head to the side with a confused look on his face.

"Um... Common, please? And also your eyes are glowing D" He pointed out and Dawn blushed a little bit as she blinked and her eyes stopped glowing.

"Are you okay?" She asked again slightly flustered to which Ezran simply nodded.

"What are you?" Soren questioned as he limped closer with a guarded look in his eyes.

"An ender dragon hybrid" Dawn said simply and while the younger blaze hybrid's eyes widened a little in awe the older simply narrowed his eyes.

"No, you are much more than that, normal hybrids can't use magic like you just did" He pointed out which made Dawn grimace slightly.

"Yeah well tell that to the fire you were spitting earlier!" Ezran snapped defensively.

"She's like you isn't she Sor? You have Godly blood in you" The younger blaze hybrid remarked in awe as he sat up slightly.

"It would seem like that Azar" Soren mumbled in surprise and Dawn let out a tired sigh.

"It's not something I like being reminded of" She remarked a bit harshly which made Azar wince slightly while Soren tilted his head curiously.

"You're from the End, right? I heard the God in charge there isn't very nice, even worse than Herobrine" He remarked and Dawn gritted her teeth slightly.

"Drop it" She hissed but it looked like Soren would keep pushing but this was the moment that Techno approached while sheathing his axe.

"Are you kids alright?" He asked as his eyes swept over his children worriedly.

"We're all good Papa!" Ezran replied cheerfully and Techno nodded before glancing at the two blaze hybrids.

"And you two?" He asked softly to which Dawn was quick to remark.

"They both need medical attention so we should head back to The Overworld" She stated simply as she turned on her heel and started heading back in the direction they came. Techno glanced at Ezran questioningly but he just shook his head and scampered after Dawn, Techno sighed before glancing back at Soren and Azar.

"Let's get you boys taken care of" He mumbled comfortingly and the two shared a look, neither knowing what to expect from The Overworld having never left The Nether before.

"You'll be safe, I promise" Techno said seriously and Soren and Azar honestly felt like they could believe him.

English: Hand those children to me at once or you will all meet the same fate

English: They are our catch, we will not hand them over to some half breed

Ender: σψΦ ΗΩΠΑΣ ΣΔΛΛΗΜΑΣ ΟΩΣΣ ΜΗ ΛΙΦΦΛΛΛΨ ΛΨ ΛΧΟΦΕΛΛ!

English: Get your hands off my little brother!

Ender:  $\psi \Leftarrow \Delta \wedge \Delta \Leftarrow \psi \vdash \top \wedge \circ \circ \Delta \vdash ?$

English: Ezran are you okay?

## Dispelling Fear

Dawn groaned tiredly as she slowly blinked her eyes open, a very persistent sizzling noise had woken her up and she wasn't very impressed with her new bunkmate. After taking in Soren and Azar last week she had been the one stuck with the older blaze hybrid thanks to her immunity to fire and the fact that the only other person with immunity was Briar who Soren didn't seem all that comfortable around.

She turned around to make a snappish comment only to stiffen up in shock when she saw that Soren was curled up in a tight ball trying to muffle his sobs as tears burned his cheeks.

"Wha- are you okay?" She asked worriedly as she sat up, her previous agitation being replaced with concern. Soren just scrunched up into a tighter ball without responding so Dawn shuffled out of bed and approached the ravenette.

"What's wrong?" She asked worriedly as she brushed away Soren's tears who slowly removed his hands from his mouth.

"J-just nightmares y-you should go b-back to bed" He stuttered out uncomfortably as he started fiddling with the orange bracelet that Ezran had given him.

"Do you want to talk about it?" Dawn offered but Soren was quick to shake his head.

"Do you... want a hug?" She offered instead which made Soren blink at her in surprise.

"What?" He questioned and Dawn blushed a little bit as she rubbed the back of her neck.

"Hugs usually help the others when they have nightmares, so I thought one might help you" She explained sheepishly and Soren stared at her for a few moments before nodding.

"A hug would be nice" He mumbled softly and Dawn gave him a small smile as she shuffled onto the bed so that she could cuddle and hug Soren who leaned into the embrace in relief. They remained in comfortable silence for a while before Soren took in a deep breath.

"I'm... scared of Briar" He admitted softly and Dawn blinked a little in shock.

"Of Briar? Why?" She questioned baffled, Briar was one of the kindest people she knew so what about him made Soren afraid?

"Not of him personally, well maybe a little, but more so what he could bring about" Soren explained anxiously and Dawn furrowed her eyebrows in confusion.

"Explain" She prompted gently and Soren took in a deep steadyng breath.

"I've seen his eyes, he's Herobrine's missing son" He explained softly and Dawn hummed a little.

"He is, are you afraid of Herobrine?" She asked gently and Soren nodded as he cuddled a bit closer.

"After his son's disappearance, Herobrine became even more ruthless and no one was spared from his wrath not even my dad Valerius, his top general, was spared as Herobrine blamed him for not protecting his son so he gave him this huge scar across his face, it's why he sent me away to live with my mom's family so that I would be safe though I don't think he was expecting my uncle to sell me and Azar to the brutes" He explained as a few tears sizzled against his cheeks and Dawn was quick to wipe them away.

"I miss my dad but I know he just wants to keep me safe but what if living here with Herobrine's missing son just brings the thing he was protecting me from here? You all seem very strong but Herobrine's a God nothing would be able to stop him from getting what he wants" Soren finished anxiously and Dawn hummed softly in understanding.

"He already has" She stated and Soren's head snapped up to look at her in shock.

"What?" Soren exclaimed fearfully and Dawn shuffled a little bit in place so that she could hold her arm out allowing Soren to see the withering scar.

"Time works differently for Gods so while Herobrine thought only a few weeks had passed since Briar's disappearance it had actually been years and by the time he showed up Briar had no intention of going with him" Dawn explained and Soren looked stunned.

"How... how are you all alive?" He asked stunned and a slight smile appeared on Dawn's face.

"My magic wasn't able to do much cause of his resistance to fire but Caspian was able to get a good hit in and Briar gave him a verbal smackdown that left him too stunned to do anything but leave" She explained and Soren's eyes widened a little in awe.

"Caspian was really able to hold off a God? I mean I've seen his lightning but it was enough to hurt Herobrine?" He asked in awe and Dawn's smile widened a bit as she nodded.

"He is a God himself after all" She remarked in amusement which made Soren's jaw drop.

"He's what!?" He questioned loudly which made Dawn laugh.

"He's a young God, though he has no connection to the Godly Plain which is why he stays here with us in the Overworld instead of being with Mom" She explained and Soren tilted his head curiously.

"That can happen?" He asked and Dawn nodded.

"It is extremely unheard of for a God to have no connection to the Godly Plain but it can happen, usually though they have a split connection like Herobrine who has a connection to the Godly Plain and the Nether and since he was his general I'm assuming your father had the same connection" She explained and Soren nodded a little bit.

"So he can't go to Godly Plain at all?" He asked and Dawn shook her head.

"He can visit it but he can't stay for long periods of time just like how Mom can visit us but only for short periods" She explained and Soren nodded once more in understanding.

"This family is wild" He mumbled and Dawn chuckled fondly in agreement.

"You haven't seen anything yet" She remarked cheerfully and Soren hummed a little in agreement before tilting his head curiously.

"Who's your Mom? I thought you all just had two Dads?" He asked which made a bright grin appear on Dawn's face.

"Dad's wife, the Goddess of Death and The Afterlife" She explained casually and Soren's jaw dropped which made Dawn giggle loudly in amusement.

## The Fear Of Strength

Soren grunted as he continued to hit the sparring dummy over and over again, he had just finished training with Dawn and he had some pent-up energy to let out. While it was amazing being able to spar against someone who used flames it was also maddening because he could tell that Dawn had been holding back.

That was something he noticed about most of the others he had sparred with, Dawn, Gabriel, Zoe, and Sebastian, they all held back and he couldn't understand why! He wasn't fragile! He didn't need to be coddled!

"Would you like a sparring partner or would like to continue to demolish that poor sparring dummy?" Briar's voice mused which made him pause mid-swing. He stared at the very beaten-up sparring dummy before turning to look at Briar who had a stone sword propped up on his shoulder.

"Are you just going to hold back as well?" He questioned harshly which just made Briar hum as he stepped closer.

"So you've noticed then" Briar mussed as he slipped his sword back into the sheath and Soren narrowed his eyes in annoyance.

"Yeah, I've noticed, what the hell is up with that? I don't appreciate not being taken seriously" He growled and Briar sighed slightly.

"It has nothing to do with you personally Soren, we hold back against each other as well. The only person we can go all out on without fear is Papa" He explained which made Soren furrow his eyebrows in confusion.

"What do you mean without fear?" He questioned and Briar sighed once more before sitting down on the ground. He patted the spot next to him and Soren hesitated for a moment before sitting next to him.

"The reason we hold back isn't that we don't think the other person can handle it, it's because we're afraid that we'll go too far" Briar explained and Soren tilted his head curiously.

"Go too far?" He asked and Briar nodded as he glanced down at his hands.

"I fled to the Overworld after being chased out of the Nether but I was captured by a corrupt king, he wanted a weapon and I was the perfect candidate for it. I don't know if he knew I had godly blood or if he was one of the people who assumed that all hybrids had powers by default but that doesn't matter, I never manifested anything which I am very grateful for" Briar began to explain and Soren tilted his head curiously at that last statement but decided not to question it for now.

"I was kept as his prisoner and tortured into becoming a monster for about two years. I've killed people, Soren, at the age of seven I took a grown man's life and it wasn't my last. Until

I was recused by our Papa I took at least a dozen more people's lives and that haunts you for the rest of your life" He continued while Soren paled drastically.

"Once you've killed it... well, the act doesn't become easier but the snap that pushes you does. If I were to go all out on someone and got my adrenaline running to the point my mind went blank then I could very easily do something I would regret. I never want to do that again" He finished with a tired look on his face and Soren hesitated for a moment before placing a comforting hand on his shoulder.

"The others have gone through their own demons but it's not my place to go into that, just please don't push them into telling you" He requested softly and Soren was quick to nod in agreement.

"I- I'm so sorry you had to go through that Briar" He mumbled softly and Briar simply hummed as he placed his head on the other boy's shoulder.

"I'm okay now, I have a family that cares and I couldn't ask for anything better" He mumbled softly and Soren smiled slightly in agreement before a thought struck him.

"What did you mean by being grateful that your powers didn't manifest?" He asked curiously and Briar tensed slightly.

"I'm... scared of manifesting my powers and a part of me hopes that I don't have any" He explained in a near whisper which stunned Soren.

"What do you mean?" He questioned as his mind raced not being able to understand not wanting to have powers especially when his own meant so much to him.

"Soren, do you know what the probability of a demigod inheriting powers is?" Briar asked which made Soren tilt his head in confusion.

"It's a 50/50 right? You either do or you don't" He remarked and Briar hummed slightly as he sat up.

"In a normal human that's true but with hybrids, it gets a little messier" He stated and Soren hummed curiously.

"Because of the magical-like abilities of what we are hybrids of the percentage becomes more of an 80%, but it also means you have more options when it comes to powers" Briar explained which made Soren furrow his eyebrows in confusion.

"What?" He questioned and Briar chuckled softly.

"Let's take Sally, for instance, avians don't have a magical ability so if she does inherit anything from Mom then it will be one of her powers. But you, on the other hand, are a blaze hybrid which meant you could have inherited one of your father's powers but instead you manifested the dormant fire powers of a blaze" He explained and Soren slowly nodded in understanding only to scrunch his face up in confusion.

"But my dad has fire powers as well so did I get my flames from him or my blaze side?" He questioned and Briar hummed softly in thought.

"I believe it's still your blaze side, your father having fire powers just made the chance of what powers you inherited higher" He explained and Soren made a soft sound of understanding.

"Which is my problem" Briar continued, earning him a concerned look from Soren.

"What do you mean?" He asked softly and Briar sighed as he stared down at his hands tiredly.

"I'm a wither hybrid and my father can wither things which means the likelihood of me inheriting that power is significantly higher than anything else and that terrifies me" He admitted as a few tears slipped down his cheeks.

"I've destroyed so much and have taken so many lives, I don't want an ability that can just hurt more, I don't want to be a monster" He said brokenly and Soren was quick to pull him into a hug.

"Whether or not you manifest the withering ability or not that will not change the fact that you are not a monster" He stated seriously as he held his brother close who sobbed into his chest.

"How can it not? You've seen the scars on Dawn's arm, that ability is a curse that only causes harm" Briar sobbed and Evander tightened his hold a bit.

"That doesn't change who you are as a person, I know you would never hurt an innocent person so no matter what power you get you are not a monster" He stated strongly and Briar trembled slightly as he leaned into Soren's hold as a small bloom of hope flared in his chest.

Maybe... maybe he was right.

# A Disastrous Trip Into Town

## Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for [notes](#)

Cyrus hummed softly to himself as he watched some of the kids run about the village looking for some kind of chaos to cause like the little gremlins he knew they were. The older kids had stayed back at the house to help Techno take care of the harvest while he had taken the younger ones into town so that they could have some fun.

“What do you say, Serena? Do you wanna stop by Uncle Lucian’s shop?” He asked as he glanced down at the little girl holding his hand, she had originally wanted to go with Ezran and Theo but he felt more comfortable keeping her close. Just because this town was a safe place for all hybrids didn’t mean he trusted the travellers coming and going from it.

“Yeah! Let’s go!” Serena cheered while flapping her little wings which just warmed his heart. However, that warm feeling immediately turned to dread as a heart-wrenching scream echoed across the town square.

That was Vesper’s voice.

He quickly scooped Serena up in his arms before rushing off towards where he could hear very loud shouting. The first thing he saw when he got to the scene was Vesper curled up into a ball sobbing while he was covered in water and standing over him was a smug old lady holding an empty bucket.

He immediately put two and two together and a burning rage swelled up in his chest while his wings flared angrily.

The shouting that had drawn him near had been Julian who was spewing every curse word he knew while just barely being held back by Azar, though it looked like the Blaze born was highly considering just letting his brother go so that they both could tear into the women. Meanwhile, Ezekiel was crouched down next to Vesper with a panicked look on his face as his hands hovered about not sure what to do.

“Step away from him now!” He commanded furiously and the woman’s smug expression flattered as she glanced at him before she squared her shoulders and gave him a nasty look.

“This doesn’t concern you sir so back away” She sneered to which he let out a slightly disbelieving-sounding laugh as he handed Serena to Julian who had calmed down slightly at the presence of his Dad.

“Doesn’t concern me? You attack my son and you think it doesn’t concern me?” He questioned furiously which made the women twitch slightly.

“You freaks of nature shouldn’t be anywhere near a civilized place like this” She sniffed dismissively only to take a slight step back when Cyrus’ wings flared angrily.

"This village is a safe place for everyone, hybrid or human, the only ones not welcome are bigots like you" He growled venomously as his hand rested on the hilt of his sword which made the women pale drastically.

"St-stay away from me!" She shrieked as she stumbled back a few steps, she glanced around to see if anyone would come to her rescue but all she was met with were venomous glares.

"Leave now and never return" Cyrus hissed as his eyes flashed with power and the women let out a timid little squeak before turning tail and running away.

Once he was sure she wouldn't turn back around Cyrus quickly crouched down and pulled some potions off of his belt as took in the multiple burns covering Vesper.

"It's okay Ves everything's going to be okay now" He murmured as he gently eased him into taking the potion.

"**يَفِي بِعَهْدِ الْوَالِدِينِ**" Vesper whimpered which just broke Cyrus' heart as he gently cradled his son close.

"What in God's name happened?" Lucian suddenly cried out as he rushed over and crouched down so that he could examine Vesper as well with a worried look on his face.

"Vesper accidentally bumped into this woman while we were playing tag and she dumped a bucket of water on him" Ezekiel explained and Lucian sucked in a sharp breath through his teeth before nodding in understanding.

"Alright let's get him back to the shop I can better treat his injuries there" He said and Cyrus nodded in agreement as he scooped his son up and held him close to his chest before he and the others followed after Lucian. However, he suddenly paused and glanced down at Azar with a worried look on his face.

"Azar, can you go find Ezran and Theo? I don't want them on their own with someone like that running about" He requested and Azar nodded in agreement but before he could leave Lucian placed a hand on his shoulder.

"Don't bother, they're back at the shop which is actually why I was looking for you Cy" He remarked which made Cyrus raise a confused eyebrow as they resumed their walk to the shop.

"Why? Did something happen?" He asked worriedly only for Lucian to give him a rather stern look.

"They were plotting with Vax so if they burn my shop down there will be consequences" He warned which made Cyrus' lip twitch slightly in amusement.

"But you're the one who left them alone so wouldn't you be partially responsible for whatever they do?" Julian questioned and Cyrus' smile became slightly wider as Lucian very pointedly refused to answer.

## Chapter End Notes

Ender:  $\{ \overline{\Phi} \sqsubseteq \exists \overline{\Phi} \}$   
English: It hurts

## Silver Tongue

“Dawn you’re going to wear a hole into the carpet, you need to calm down” Sally pointed out as she watched Dawn pace angrily.

“I don’t care!” Dawn snapped back as she continued to pace, her eyes glowing a furious crimson. Sally let out a tired sigh as she sat up a bit while wracking her brain trying to figure out what to do.

Ever since their Dad had returned with the kids a few hours ago and everyone discovered what had happened to Vesper Dawn had practically been spitting fire in her anger. Wisteria was supposed to be a safe haven for hybrids, yet a woman so vile had been able to enter it and had horribly scarred Vesper and Dawn just couldn’t forgive herself for not having been there to prevent it.

“Dawn, I know you’re angry but no amount of pacing is going to change what happened. So sit down, calm yourself a bit and then we can go see if Vesper has woken up” She tried to soothe but this just earned her a vicious growl from the blonde that sounded every bit like the dragon she was a descendant of.

“Dawn” She tried again but Dawn just continued to pace, she tried three more times and each time her patience grew thinner. She understood Dawn’s worry, they were all worried, but she was letting her anger cloud her judgment. Vesper didn’t need his sister planning revenge he needed her by his side comforting him.

“Dawn! For the love of- **Just stop!**” She snapped angrily and Dawn went completely still which made her let out a breath of relief.

“I know you’re angry, trust me we are all angry. But what Vesper needs right now is your support and comfort, not your rage” She explained softly and when Dawn didn’t snap back or continue pacing she grinned a bit.

“Do you wanna go see Vesper now that you’ve calmed down a bit?” She offered but when Dawn continued to just stand there she furrowed his eyebrows in confusion.

“Dawn? Are you really giving me the silent treatment?” She huffed unimpressed and her agitation grew a bit when Dawn still didn’t respond.

“Look I’m sorry I snapped but you just weren’t see-” the words died on her tongue as she came to stand in front of Dawn only to realize that she hadn’t just stopped moving, she had completely frozen which meant she wasn’t blinking and she wasn’t breathing.

“Hey, Dawn this isn’t funny what’s going on?” She questioned fearfully as she shook Dawn by her shoulder but this did nothing.

“Dawn please you’ve got to move, you-you’ve got to breathe! Please!” She begged as her heart lodged itself into her throat but no matter how much she shook her nothing was

working.

“Dawn!” She screamed as tears began pouring down her face, this was way too long to go without breathing! What was happening?!

“Sally, why are you yelling?” Techno questioned worriedly as he poked his head into the room, his concern skyrocketed when he met Sally's teary fearful gaze.

“Something w-wrong with Dawn, she-she just stopped moving an-and she's not breathing! I-I don't know what to do!” She explained fearfully and Techno's eyes went wide in shock before he rushed into the room and quickly examined Dawn. He paled drastically when he realized Sally wasn't kidding about Dawn not breathing.

“Cyrus! Get in here right now! It's an emergency!” He shouted urgently and loud footsteps approached before Cyrus rushed into the room worriedly.

“What's happened?” He asked worriedly and Techno gestured towards Dawn.

“All of her functions have stopped including breathing” He explained fearfully and Cyrus paled drastically as he rushed over and began examining Dawn.

“Is Dawn going to be okay?” Sally questioned as tears streamed down her face. Cyrus didn't say a word as blue particles spread over his hands, he placed them on Dawn's chest and forehead before jerking them away harshly.

Dawn sucked in a deep breath as she blinked rapidly and fell to her knees while Cyrus crouched down with her and began rubbing her back to help her breathe.

“What *cough cough* happened?” Dawn questioned hoarsely and Cyrus let out a sad sigh as he shared a brief look with Techno.

“It would seem that Sally has unlocked her magical ability” He explained uncomfortably which made Sally stiffen up in horror.

“I-I did this?” She questioned horrified and Techno placed a comforting hand on her shoulder.

“Sally it's okay, it was just an accident” He tried to soothe but Sally just stumbled back and covered her mouth in horror. She had stopped Dawn from breathing! She could have killed her!

“Sally?” Cyrus said softly as he went to stand back up but Sally flinched slightly before turning on her heel and sprinting out of the room, her fear forcing her to flee.

## My Baby

Sally let out a muffled sob as she curled up as tightly as she could in the crawl space in the basement. It had originally been made with Ezran in mind so that the little raccoon could burrow but it made a perfect hiding space for Sally even if it was a bit too small.

Her whole body trembled as more sobs escaped her while her mind ran through what had happened. She could have killed Dawn, if Dad hadn't been home Dawn would have died and it would have been all her fault!

She had to stay as far away from everyone else as she could, she wouldn't be able to live with herself if she hurt anyone else, especially the younger kids. A painful sob escaped her at the thought.

She stiffened up in shock when she felt fingers running through her hair soothingly.

“Sshh, it’s alright sweetheart everything going to be just fine” Mom said softly which made Sally blink in surprise as she glanced up and saw her smiling down at her.

“Mom? What are-” She began to question only to cover her mouth once again quickly, she couldn’t afford to talk, what if she hurt her as well? This only made her mother frown sadly.

“Oh sweetheart, please don’t be afraid of your voice. I know you’re scared and I’m so sorry your powers activated at such a bad time but they are not something to fear” She said softly as she cuddled her precious little girl close.

“Silver Tongue is a very powerful ability and in the wrong hands, it can do so much damage. But you Sally, you are a good person and with the right amount of training you can do so much good with it” She explained earnestly and Sally blinked up at her uneasily before she slowly removed her hands.

“But I almost killed Dawn” She exclaimed fearfully and Elowen let out a sad sigh as she nodded a bit.

“As I said it can be dangerous but here this will help you learn to harness your powers so that you can protect instead of harm” She said as she summoned a small greenish-blue book and presented it to Sally.

“This... this can help me?” She asked hopefully as she accepted the book and Elowen nodded with a warm smile.

“It will, but so will training with Dawn and Caspian, their powers may be external and yours is internal but they can still help you with control” She explained which made Sally stiffen up worriedly.

“Promise me you’ll try?” She requested and Sally hesitated for a moment before nodding in agreement.

"I promise" She said softly and Elowen smiled warmly down at her as she snuggled her closer.

Sally smiled softly as cuddled closer to her mom before she glanced down at the book thoughtfully, the symbol on the cover did not match her mom's.

"Silver Tongue isn't one of your abilities is it?" She asked softly as she glanced up at her mom who hummed softly as she nodded.

"It's not, you my dear are rather unique in the sense that instead of inheriting your abilities from me you actually got them from your aunt" She explained which made Sally blink up at her in confusion.

"My aunt?" She questioned in confusion, since when did she have an aunt?

"My sister Adrianna, she's the primal goddess of the ocean. We haven't spoken in many years, we had a rather nasty disagreement that we've never settled but you remind me of her" Elowen explained with a warm smile on her face.

"Really?" Sally asked curiously.

"She was incredibly musically inclined like you are, in fact, Silver Tongue is also sometimes referred to as the Sirens Call. Your wings are also similar to hers, they're slimmer than your father's and I's as they are best suited for air and sea. You also have an incurable curiosity like she does" She explained to which Sally gasped a little in awe as she glanced at her wings curiously. She had always wondered why her wings looked so different from her parents and now she knew why.

"I could try and get in contact with her to see if she can give you some pointers, she has a stronger connection to the Overworld than I do so she can stay here longer. But like I said we have not spoken in centuries so I make no promises" Elowen continued and Sally nodded in understanding before nuzzling even closer to her mom.

"Thank you, but can... can we stay like this for a little bit longer? I've missed you" She mumbled hopefully and which made her mom's smile grow as she nodded in agreement.

"Of course, dear" She said warmly which made Sally grin as she snuggled closer. Elowen smiled as she began humming a soft tune to help lul Sally to sleep.

*My baby, my baby*

*You're my baby, say it to me*

## Cattle Auction

Cyrus readjusted his cloak slightly for the millionth time to make sure his wings were properly covered before doing the same with his hood to hide his crest feathers. He hated travelling into towns like Oleander, where Wisteria was a safe haven for hybrids of all kinds. Oleander was like a death trap.

He had needed supplies from the town over and there was no safe way to access it without passing through Oleander, even just trying to fly over it wasn't safe as trappers were known to stalk this area. Thankfully, his trip had been completely uneventful, and now he just needed to get home.

Honestly, he hadn't wanted to travel so far out so soon after Sally's powers emerged but Lucian needed these supplies for the shop as the last batch had been used to help Vesper heal. So he kinda owed it to his brother and in any case, it was much safer for him to gather the supplies than Lucian as his wings were easier to hide than his.

He was suddenly snapped out of his musing when he noticed quite a few people rushing towards what he believed to be the centre of town. He furrowed his eyebrows in confusion before jogging up to one of the men to catch his attention.

"Excuse me, sir? What exactly is everyone rushing off for?" He questioned and the man slowed down so that he could give him a big grin.

"Every month we hold a big auction down in the town square, people come from all over to attend it very popular. You should attend" He explained eagerly and Cyrus nodded a little in understanding.

"I suppose it would be a good opportunity, would you lead the way?" He requested and the man nodded eagerly as he began leading him towards the town square. It would have seemed odd to just deny the man so it was best to just go along and leave after the auction.

"I'm looking to get something for my kids, my buddy got a sweet deal on a horse last auction and his kids just love it" The man rambled and Cyrus nodded a little to show he was listening.

"You've got any kids?" He asked suddenly and Cyrus nodded once again.

"A couple and they can be quite the handful" He said which made the man chuckle in agreement.

"That's kids for ya but cha love 'em anyways" He said fondly which made Cyrus smile slightly.

They eventually arrived at the town square where a stage had been set up and the crowd had already formed, the man waved him farewell before meeting up with some people he knew. Cyrus carefully manoeuvred around the crowd before finding a good spot near the back and

was handed his paddle number. He twirled it around in his hand as he watched the people on the stage, most of them just seemed like typical workers but the man standing behind the podium who he's pretty sure was the mayor seemed to ooze charisma. The glint in the man's eyes made his skin crawl.

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Considering the town's reputation he had expected the auction to take a dark turn but so far it seemed pretty innocent, there had been jewellery, art, and livestock everything was totally normal. The man he had spoken to had even won a beautiful-looking doll house with dolls included and he felt himself being happy for the man.

"And now for the last item of the night, something I'm sure many of you have eagerly awaiting" The mayor announced with a confident grin on his face which earned quite a few eager whispers from the crowd.

"Bring 'em in boys!" He called out and Cyrus' heart dropped into his stomach when two men brought out the next "items".

They were two mushroom hybrids and they were children, a boy and a girl around the same age as his kids. The boy looked exhausted like the fight had been drained out of him while the girl was trying to seem tough but she was trembling in fear and her eyes kept darting about looking for a way out.

The crowd practically went crazy and bids were popping up everywhere which made a cold fury enter him, those were children they bidding over. He began stalking towards the stage while ignoring the people he bumped into.

"Sir, sir! You can't go on the stage!" Someone shouted as they tried to grab his arm but he shook them off and hopped up onto the stage catching everyone's attention.

"What exactly do you thin-?" The mayor began to say only to be cut off by Cyrus pointing his sword right at his throat.

"I am taking these children with me and you aren't going to do a thing to stop me" He growled dangerously which made the man sputter in disbelief.

"Who do you think you are?!" He shouted indignantly and Cyrus leaned in real close so that only he could hear him.

"I am Death's Angel and I will bring her wrath down upon this entire town if you do not do as I say" He hissed which made the man pale fearfully before his eyes rolled into the back of his head and he fainted on the spot, this caused a chain reaction and everyone started screaming and running away.

Once he was sure everyone had fled he snatched a pair of keys from the unconscious mayor before he turned his attention to the kids who were staring at him with two very different expressions. The girl was staring up at him with wide awed filled eyes whereas the boy was staring at him with such a sharp calculated look in his misty blue eyes that it kinda reminded him of Dawn.

“Everything’s going to be okay now, you’re safe” He said softly as he crouched in front of them. He had to quickly hide his shock when he felt magical energy coming off of both of them, they had godly blood in them but very different godly blood.

“Who are you?” The girl asked shyly as she shuffled a little closer.

“My name’s Cyrus” He said warmly as he pulled his hood down and both of their eyes widened as they noticed his crest feathers.

“You’re an avian” The boy mumbled in surprise and he gave him a warm smile before frowning down at the chains on both kids.

“Here let me help you out of these” He said softly as he gestured to the chains and after a few seconds of hesitation they held their wrists out for him and he made quick to unlock the chains and collars around their necks.

“I’m going to take you somewhere safer where you can get your injuries treated” He promised as he watched them rub at the bruising along their necks.

“What are your names?” He asked softly as he began leading them off of the stage and the girl gave him a small smile before responding.

“I’m Luna and this is Logan”

## Not Alone

Luna kept a firm grip on Logan's hand as they followed Cyrus up a small hill towards a rather large-looking house, even from a distance she could hear the sound of swords clashing and excited shouting.

"Are you sure we can trust him?" Logan muttered softly so that he wouldn't be overheard and Luna pursed her lips thoughtfully as she glanced from Logan to Cyrus and back.

"I think so, his energy doesn't make my skin crawl like the other men did" She mumbled and while Logan didn't look fully convinced he still nodded in acceptance.

As they breached the top of the hill they were able to see that kids were running about everywhere, when Cyrus had mentioned that he had a few kids they certainly weren't expecting this.

A few younger kids were helping a tall piglin hybrid feed an army's worth of wolves while a few of the older kids were duelling with swords, but what caught Luna's attention was the ender dragon hybrid and blaze hybrid that was duelling with flames. They had magic, just like her!

"I'm not alone" She mumbled in awe before dropping Logan's hand and rushing forward ignoring the alarmed shout this earned her from Cyrus.

"You're just like me!" She gushed brightly as she came to a stop in front of the duo which startled them slightly.

"Uh, hello? Who are you?" The ender dragon hybrid questioned as she tilted her head curiously.

"Luna you can't just rush off like that" Logan scolded as he wrapped a protective arm around her shoulders while he glared at the two kids as if daring them to even think of laying a hand on either of them.

"But Logan, they have godly blood just like me! I'm not alone" She exclaimed as a few tears appeared in her eyes which made Logan's expression soften while the other two made shocked sounds.

"Who are you?" The blaze hybrid questioned as he narrowed his eyes slightly but before either of them could answer Cyrus stepped forward.

"Dawn, Soren meet Luna and Logan, they'll be staying with us from now on" He explained warmly which seemed to catch the attention of the other kids as they began approaching with curious expressions on their faces.

"Let's take this inside" The large piglin hybrid recommended before he and Cyrus began ushering everyone into the house, through the whole thing Luna couldn't help but glance

back at Soren and Dawn every once and a while. She wasn't alone.

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"Gods should really take better care of their kids" Techno remarked which made Cyrus snort in amusement as they observed Luna as she grew a small bouquet of flowers for Dawn who looked quite impressed.

"Logan has godly blood as well but I have the feeling neither of them knows that" He said after a moment as he glanced towards where the other mooshroom hybrid was watching on protectively.

Techno grunted in understanding as he continued to observe them both, their house was becoming packed with magic and he was worried that it would start to attract some unwanted attention.

"Hey, don't stress yourself out we'll keep them safe" Cyrus said as he placed a comforting hand on Techno's shoulder who let out a small sigh before nodding strongly in agreement.

No one would ever get away with hurting any of his kids.

# Trust

Logan frowned a bit to himself as he crept out of the bedroom to do some exploring now that everyone was asleep, he wanted to do some investigating while everyone was asleep. The people in this house are way too friendly and while Luna may trust them he did not.

He slipped quietly into Cyrus' study and began to poke around to try and find any kind of information on the man. As far as he could tell Sally was his only biological child and no matter how kind-hearted he tried to present himself no one would willingly take in that many hybrid children without some kind of ulterior motive, especially when so many of them had godly blood in them.

Oh sure he had heard rumours about Cyrus Everdeen, The Angel of Death and Technoblade, The Blood God. Immortal legends that stood up against tyranny but those stories told him nothing about the men themselves and he was not about to be lulled into a false sense of security without doing some research.

He would not allow himself and Luna to be sold off again.

After a bit of scavenging through different papers, he stumbled across a series of letters addressed to Cyrus from a woman named Elowen. He briefly scanned over the words only for a slight blush to dust across his cheeks as he realized that these were love letters between Cyrus and his wife.

He coughed into his fist in embarrassment before he put the letters back and turned to open a different drawer.

“You know it’s rather rude to snoop through people’s things” Someone remarked from the doorway which had Logan stiffen up in shock before whirling around and coming face to face with Dawn who was giving him a rather unimpressed look.

“I’m not doing anything wrong” He snapped defensively to which Dawn shrugged carelessly as she stepped further into the room.

“Never said you were, just that it was rude” She replied simply as she hopped up onto the desk casually.

“What are you looking for anyway? If it’s Dad’s diary I’m afraid you’re out of luck, the old man’s smart enough to know not to hide it where Ezran or Theo can get their hands on it” She questioned in amusement to which Logan just scowled and glanced away from her.

“Or are you looking for evidence that doesn’t exist?” She continued in a more serious tone that had Logan stiffen up in shock.

“I understand your suspicions, you’ve been hurt before and my words may not matter to you but I can guarantee that Cyrus and Techno would never hurt any of us. That includes you and Luna” Dawn said seriously and Logan stared her down with a piercing look.

“How can you be so sure?” He questioned gruffly which earned him a soft smile from Dawn.

“In the four years that I’ve known them, they’ve never given me a reason to doubt them” She explained which had some of the tension leave Logan’s shoulders.

“Just give them a chance to prove it you to” She continued softly as she reached over to place a gentle hand on Logan’s shoulder who let out an exhausted sigh as the remaining tension eased out of his shoulders.

“I’ll... give it some thought” He finally said which made Dawn give him a bright smile as she squeezed his shoulder comfortingly.

“Good, now come on this family tends to get up pretty early so we better get to bed” She remarked as she hopped off of the desk and headed out of the room, not waiting to see if Logan would follow her just trusting that he would eventually.

Logan stared after her for a moment as her words circled around his brain. After a moment he reached into his pocket and pulled out the blue bracelet that Ezran had presented to him before dinner as well as what he had said.

*“Now you are officially a part of the family!”*

Maybe... maybe he really could be a part of this family. He stared at the bracelet for a moment longer before slipping it onto his wrist and leaving the room.

## The Results Of An Old Experiment

Cyrus hummed softly to himself as he weaved a few flowers into Serena's hair while braiding it, which the young dragon was not helping with as she kept leaning forward to pester Theo over the suspiciously explosive-like device he was tinkering with. That would be a future him problem he was sure.

As he worked he cast a glance around the yard to see what everyone was up to, a large group of them were having a water balloon fight which Techno had seemingly been dragged into, Zoe was lounging a safe distance away soaking up the sun, Caspian was napping against Briar who was reading, Soren and Azar were wrestling far away from the water battle going on, and finally Vesper and Luna were colouring together. He smiled softly at the scene before he returned to the task at hand, however, an alarmed shout had his head shooting back up in alarm.

He watched in slow-motion horror as a water balloon missed hitting Sally and instead went speeding towards Vesper, however, before it could hit him he suddenly disappeared leaving behind nothing but purple particles.

Cyrus blinked a couple of times in shock as he took in the scene, did... did Vesper just teleport? But that shouldn't be possible, Vesper doesn't have any godly blood. But then how?

"Wow! Yes! How did you do that?" Ezran questioned in surprise and Cyrus followed his line of sight to see that Vesper was now sitting in a tree with a very confused expression on his face.

"I don't know" He remarked with a slight shrug of his shoulders.

"Dawn? You okay?" Gabriel questioned which immediately caught Cyrus' attention and when he turned in that direction he saw that Dawn had gone deathly pale and was shaking ever so slightly as she stared at Vesper.

"Dawn?" He called out worriedly as he began to stand only to freeze in shock when Dawn's eyes snapped towards him and all he could see was pure unbridled terror. Her eyes darted between him and Vesper for less than a moment before she turned on her heel and sprinted off back into the house.

"Dawn!" Techno called out as he went to take a step forward but Cyrus beat him to it.

"I'll check on her, you go make sure Vesper is okay" He stated and Techno hesitated for a moment before nodding in agreement and turning to go help Vesper out of the tree.

Cyrus watched for only a moment before rushing off into the house and into Dawn's room only to see the girl pacing furiously and tugging at her hair as she took in quick short breaths.

“Dawn?” He called out hesitantly as he tentatively approached only to pause when Dawn flinched away.

“This wasn’t supposed to happen! He was supposed to be fine!” She gasped out as she practically ripped her hair out.

“Hey none of that” Cyrus said soothingly as he gently pulled Dawn’s hand away from her hair before sitting down with her on the bed so that he could wrap his wing around her.

“Come on deep breaths, you can do it” He instructed softly as he rubbed Dawn’s back. She took in a few deep breaths while blinking away the tears that had begun forming in her eyes.

“Do you wanna tell me what’s got you so worried?” He asked gently to which Dawn closed her eyes with a pained expression on her face as she wrapped her arms around herself.

“This wasn’t supposed to happen, Vesper was supposed to be safe” She mumbled which made Cyrus furrow his eyebrows in confusion.

“What do you mean by that?” He questioned. Dawn took in another deep breath before glancing up at him with eyes that looked to old.

“I’ve never told you the reason why we fled the End but Vesper played a very crucial role in that decision” She began to explain which made a slight frown appear on Cyrus’ face. Even after all these years Dawn and other’s time in the End was still a mystery to him and Techno, neither had wanted to pressure Dawn into telling them anything but they had been able to pick up on enough context clues to guess that Ambroz was not a good father to her or Serena, but what role did Vesper have to play in all this?

“Ambroz, the God of the End has always had an obsession with power, he has and always will want to be the most powerful being in all of creation. For a time it seemed like he was just that but eventually he noticed that many other powerful gods had chosen champions to spread their legacy. Lady Elowen had her Angel, the Blood God had his Warrior and more and more Gods were becoming more open to the idea of having children to pass on their divine essence. He hated it but he also did not want to be the only God without one so he began to plot” Dawn explained in a sort of detached tone as if she wasn’t fully there which was rather concerning but Cyrus knew if he stopped her now Dawn would likely clam right up and refuse to elaborate any further.

“Women all over the End were expected to present themselves to him so that they may bear his children which most did as the thought of denying a God like Ambroz seemed ludicrous and so he became the father of many children. However, he did not just want a child he wanted the perfect child so when those children reached an *appropriate age* they would be expected to fight to the death to prove themselves the strongest” She continued which had Cyrus tensing up slightly, this certainly explained Dawn’s unusually advanced skills in combat and magic.

“Before we fled the End I was the oldest child of Ambroz, the *Dawn* of a new age. Since I had proven myself better than the others my mother was granted the *privilege* of bearing him another child, a privilege she did not survive. Meanwhile, I was allowed more access to the

palace which is where I met Vesper, or more accurately where I met Experiment VES934” Dawn revealed which had Cyrus’ eyes going wide in horrified realization.

“Ambroz didn’t like how long it took a mortal to age so while he waited for the perfect child to emerge he began running experiments to try and expedite the process. Taking the members of society people wouldn’t notice going missing, i.e orphans and the homeless he would keep them locked up in the dungeons and inject his own blood into them in search of a compatible host, most died from the injection and those that did survive were quickly disposed of when no powers emerged in them” She continued to explain while Cyrus covered his mouth to keep from getting ill, what Ambroz had done went against every law the Gods had.

“Vesper was one of the few to survive the injection but when no powers emerged Ambroz tasked me with taking him out, but I couldn’t do it. I was so tired of killing and I had grown rather fond of Vesper so when Ambroz was none the wiser I took Vesper and Serena and I ran. I ran and ran and ran until we eventually reached the Overworld where I thought we’d be safe” Dawn finished as she closed her eyes with a pained grimace on her face.

“Ambroz had so many kids I didn’t think he’d care about me and Serena being gone but if he finds out that his experiment was a success nothing will stop him from reclaiming what is his” She confessed as her voice shook which made Cyrus pull her into a tight hug.

“That’s not true, as long as Techno and I draw breath Ambroz will never get his hands on you or Serena or Vesper. After all, Herobrine is just as powerful as Ambroz and we were able to keep him from taking Briar away” He said reassuringly but Dawn just shook her head.

“Herobrine held back because of sentimentality towards Briar, Ambroz holds none of that sentimentality. He’ll kill me for taking Vesper away without a second thought and then he’ll burn this entire town to the ground so that there is no one left to try and defy him again” She stated seriously which made Cyrus frown as he gently urged Dawn to meet his eyes.

“Dawn I need you to listen to me okay?” He requested in a deceptively calm tone of voice which immediately caught Dawn’s attention as she met his eyes, which were swirling with power.

“What Ambroz has done goes against every law the Gods of the four realms must abide by. Techno and I may not be Gods ourselves but we have many connections in the Godly Realm. He will not get away with any of it and if we have it our way he will be stripped of his divine essence before he can ever lay a hand on any of you again” He stated seriously which made Dawn’s eyes go wide.

“Really?” She asked hesitantly and Cyrus simply nodded sharply.

“Okay” She mumbled as she rested her head against his chest while her shoulders sagged a bit in hope-filled relief.

Cyrus’ thoughts were a whirlwind of rage as he held his daughter close. The shadows twisted and swirled in response to their angel’s wrath as he plotted and schemed, he didn’t care what it took he was going to make a God *bleed*.



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